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Issue 435

Wednesday, January 14th 2015



'800 years since Magna Carta but still no democracy in West Dorset'

By Trevor Bevins

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A PACKED public meeting has called for the end of the cabinet system at West Dorset District Council.

The meeting heard that, under the current cabinet system a handful of Conservatives make all the decisions, leaving remaining councillors with little, or no, opportunity to change or challenge decisions.

"800 years after Magna Carta democracy is dead in west Dorset," Dorchester Independent councillor Alistair Chisholm told the 270 people at the Corn Exchange.

The Conservatives declined to send a speaker to the meeting and afterwards declined to comment on its outcome. West Dorset MP Oliver Letwin said he was unable to appear.

But former Conservative district councillor Fred Horsington, who was persuaded onto the platform from the back of the hall towards the end of the meeting, said that if any other party were in the Conservative position they too, would do the same. His candour was booed by many at the meeting.

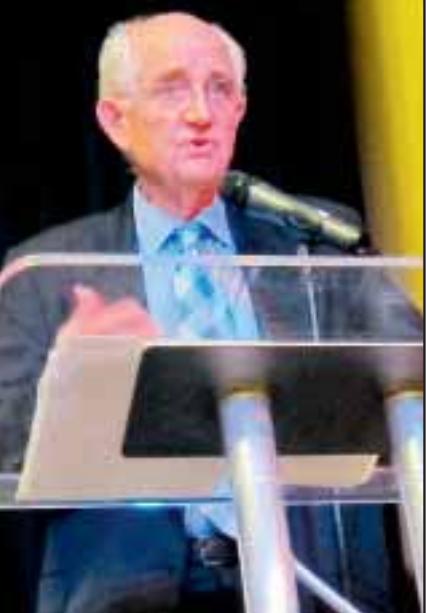
John Grantham, from Burton Bradstock, who arranged the gathering in the name of Public First, said that, at the last election, the Conservatives received less than half the vote yet held more than two thirds of the West Dorset District Council seats and all of the cabinet positions.

"It is a great deal of responsibility in the hands of a few... a lot of what goes on is not advertised and things are kept very, very quiet."

Afterwards he described the meeting as a 'landmark event.'

"This meeting arose out of frustration with the impenetrable and anti-democratic nature of the West Dorset District Council cabinet form of government, where the majority Conservative party holds 67 per cent of the seats, based on just 43 per cent of the vote, but then through cabinet appointments translates this into 100 per cent of the cabinet positions, essentially excluding all other political points of view."

Chaired by human rights lawyer Clive Stafford Smith, the meet-



■ JOHN Grantham addresses the meeting

ing discussed how, under a unitary system, around 242 councillors county-wide might be cut back to 100, with massive financial savings.

Said Mr Grantham: "Towards the end, brief contributions from representatives invited from the Green Party, Labour, Lib-Dems and UKIP were welcomed, and all agreed with the clear sense of the public's view at the meeting that WDDC should move to a

committee, and potentially unitary, system of local government.

"It is perhaps the starker illustration of the need for greater democratic responsiveness, not one of the eight senior Tories individually invited to attend appeared."

A small committee will now consider whether it is feasible to use the law to hold a public referendum to force the council to move from the cabinet to a committee system,



■ MIKE Byatt, Labour, calls for an end to the cabinet system

as operated by Weymouth & Portland Borough Council.

Other meetings may also be held across the district with a further call for public debate on adopting a unitary system.

Former district council officer David Oliver told the meeting that since the mid-1980s west Dorset had moved to the cabinet system where he said: "decisions are made in pre-meetings and then voted on *en bloc*... it seems rather pointless

for us to elect fifty-plus councillors when the decisions are made by six."

Alistair Chisholm said the set up was an outrage to democracy, and telling that the Conservatives had declined invitations to attend: "What do these people have to hide?"

"Why are they absent this evening? What arrogance. We need to change this system."

"Eight hundred years after Magna Carta we still haven't got democracy in west Dorset."



■ FRED Horsington, the only Conservative to take to the platform

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It took us a while to get a mobile phone, but I got one before Peter... and he still can't text!

• WHAT have been the highlights of your times behind the microphone?

Peter: We always love going up to London for the Mayor's Show. This year was one of the best ever, and the Royal events are always lovely. At the 50th anniversary of the Coronation I was stood commentating and Glenda Jackson was just behind me. I wondered if I should talk to her, but decided I would and she chatted for quite a while, which was amazing. Overall all sorts of people have been generally very cooperative over the years and the Dorchester area is such a good place for event.

Heather: More often than not we find ourselves with more to do than hands available to do them.

• DO to pair of you ever get a day off. I hear you were working on Christmas Day?

Peter: Very rarely. Christmas Day is usually one of our longest days. This year we were in from 10am until 6pm, but we did have a pre-recorded programme in the middle of the day so we found time for lunch in the Damer Restaurant. We'd recorded the morning service at St Peter's and Heather edited it for broadcast in the afternoon. The Mayor came in during the morning; we had a Weymouth lunchtime concert and 'Carols by Train' which we had pre-recorded at Swanage with other volunteers, the Wareham Town Band in the luggage van and carols from the platform.

• HAS the station changed much over the years?

Heather: Technology has made our job easier when it's working alright, but when it goes wrong life can get a little tricky... there's no wind-up back up these days we can turn to if things go wrong, but overall there has been very few occasions when we have been forced off the air. Having said that our computers now need new hard-drives and the mixing desk is getting to the end of its life so we will need to find the money, from somewhere, for replacements.

• AND would the pair of you find enough to do if you did stop?

Peter: We've got plenty to do. There's always the railway, the recorded music society, an archive of cuttings and I've started writing a book about my 50 years in broadcasting although I'm not sure anyone much would want to read it.

Heather: I dabble in many things but I've been doing a family history for many years, which is fascinating, and I've often thought I could make a career out of it.

60 SECOND INTERVIEW

Info at a glance ...

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Charles Street petition calls for proper site investigation



AROUND 2,000 people have signed an online petition to ensure there is a proper archaeological investigation in Charles Street before development goes ahead.

The site, opposite the district council offices, is earmarked for shops, homes and a new car park.

Previous works in the area have uncovered important Roman remains, including a bath house which remains buried under the adjoining Woolaston Field car park.

The 38 Degrees online petition says:

"West Dorset District

Council has shocked and appalled archaeologists by insisting that the Charles Street development be allowed to go ahead without an adequate archaeological investigation prior to the bulldozers moving in.

"The site lies within the walls of the Roman town, and its archaeology is likely to include vital clues to our town's history, from prehistoric times to the present. Flying in the face of English Heritage's advice, and acting against the spirit of the law where archaeology and development are concerned, the council

has decided to squander a major opportunity to explore and enhance the understanding of Dorchester's past.

Instead of a thorough investigation of what remains below ground level, the site is to be destroyed and removed for landfill, after a mere cursory examination.

"The council employed consultants to provide a report which assessed the site as being of only 'medium' importance, despite the fact that it is bounded on one side by the remains of Dorchester's Roman bath-house, and on another by a unique and internationally important Neolithic henge monument..."

"Plainly, the council is determined to see the project through at any cost.

"So far this has included several millions of pounds of ratepayers' money.

"Now it seems as if it will also be at the cost of our town's heritage, and the future opportunity for generations of residents, visitors, students and historians to enjoy, study and understand a vital part of Dorchester's history..."

"In the early 19thC, a group of Dorchester residents, led by the poet William Barnes, managed to avert the demolition of Maumbury Rings by Brunel's Great Western Railway by forming a pressure group and lobbying against the wanton destruction of our town's priceless heritage.

"Now we need to act again, to make sure that, when development occurs, our heritage is treated with respect and is properly investigated, recorded and conserved."

Three months of traffic problems looming

DORCHESTER drivers are being warned of potential traffic problems as three months of work gets underway replacing a gas main along the length of Weymouth Avenue.

Two-way lights were in operation as work started at the northern end of the street this week with only slight delays off-peak.

But complete road closures are to come which will affect bus routes as well as those trying to get in and out of the town centre by car.

Southern Gas Networks is spending £450,000 over 12 weeks on replacing a cast iron mains pipe with a modern plastic-based product.

Nine separate phases are planned which, at times will see the road completely closed out-

side Brewery Square and also the closure of nearby Fairfield Road and Upper Fairfield Road. In the final phases there will be no access for a short while out of Edward Road and Queen's Avenue into Weymouth Avenue.

A spokesman for Southern Gas Networks added: "Parking may be restricted for short periods, but we will endeavour to make sure access is maintained wherever possible."

The spokesman added: "This work is essential and forms part of our on-going mains replacement programme in the area to maintain the safety and reliability of the gas supply network.

Bus operator First says the Number 10 service between Wey-



WORK has started on gas main replacement in Weymouth Avenue

mouth and Dorchester and the X31 which links to Bridport and Axminster will both be diverted during the works.

The Number 10 will travel the normal route from Weymouth to Dorchester but will return from the county

hospital using Damer's Road and Maumbury Road before resuming the normal route from Weymouth Avenue.

Passengers who use the Brewery Square bus stop to go to Weymouth will have to walk to a bus stop on Maumbury Road.

The Queen's Avenue bus stops will also be affected towards the end of the works.

Further information will be available for bus users, as the works progresses, on the First website: www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/dorset.

Tragedy as another cyclist dies on Dorchester's roads

A DORCHESTER head-teacher has become the second cyclist to die on Dorchester's roads within weeks of a similar tragedy.

"Paul and his family have lived in Dorchester for four years and Paul was headteacher of St Andrew's Primary School in Yetminster.

"Paul was a keen cyclist and avid music and rugby fan. He will be much missed by all who knew him. Paul's wife and three daughters are being comforted by family and friends and request that their privacy is respected at this difficult time."

The chairman of the school's governors, Paul Sparks, said the news was shared with pupils and staff on Friday morning: "Jane Prelogauskas is our acting

head teacher and has shown outstanding leadership at this difficult time.

"Paul was the absolute centre of our school community, a man of vi-

sion and of immense integrity who cared for nothing more than the children in his care."

Police are appealing for witnesses to the accident which happened

shortly after 6.35pm.

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Tim Gooding of Dorset police traffic unit on 101 quoting incident number 8:349.

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BEATRICE OLIVE HILL – “Olive” peacefully on the 6th January 2015 aged 86 years. Beloved wife of the late “Joe” much loved mother of Pat, Stephen, Kevin, Nigel, Ginnette and Tracey, loved mother in law, Nan, Gran Nan, Sister & Auntie. Olive will be sadly missed by all her Family and Friends. The Funeral service to take place at St Michaels Church, Lyme Regis on Wednesday 21st January at 11.30am. Dark clothes not necessary. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to The Royal British Legion C/O A J Wakely & Sons 7a Silver Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3HR

KEMP - Monica

Passed away peacefully on 25th December 2014, aged 86. Reunited with husband Len and darling grandsons Edward and Mark. A loving Mum, Nan and Great Nan. Memorial service to be held at St Andrews Church, Charmouth on Friday 30th January, 2pm.

Harbour freezes fees again

WEYMOUTH Harbour has frozen its fees for the second consecutive year to remain one of the south coast's cheapest places to berth.

Harbour authorities said they were committed to providing the best value for visiting yachts, boats and berth holders; prices have not changed since 2013.

Harbour management board chairman and Weymouth & Portland mayor, Councillor Kate Wheller, said: “While 2015 may bring some changes for Weymouth harbour after Condor

ferries’ operations have ceased, the commitment to providing customers with great value means that we are keeping our prices competitive.

“This is great news for our existing leisure customers, but also for anyone considering berthing in Weymouth as there are berths available.

“Just call or pop in and speak to a member of our friendly harbour team in the harbour office.”

The harbour provides a very flexible package for berth holders who

tomers a free berth on the fourth visit. Customers will be able to roll-over their stamps gained in 2014/15.

Charges and other information can be found on the harbour website at <http://harbour.weymouth.gov.uk>.



WEYMOUTH harbour

Next steps planned for tri-council partnership

THE next steps in the planned partnership between three Dorset councils will be discussed at a meeting in Weymouth this Thursday, January 15th.

Councillors will be shaping the future of the partnership between West Dorset and North Dorset district councils and Weymouth & Portland borough councils at a meeting at 11.30am.

The agenda includes a timetable for forming the partnership, consideration of collaboration agreement principles, plus approval of proposed pay for a shared chief executive.

The collaboration agreement is a binding commitment by the three councils to enter into

partnership and needs to be approved by each authority’s full council meetings, expected to be held during February.

A salary of £130,000 is being proposed for the new chief officer, inclusive of allowances and out of hours working. This compares to £300,000 annual costs for the previous three chief executives.

The shared chief executive will deliver the partnership’s business plan, which will see the councils reduce costs by £6 million by 2020.

Together the three councils have 117 councillors who represent a population of 235,000; 700 employees and combined annual budgets of around £130million.

our finances but also being innovative in the way we deal with the challenges facing local government.”

A partnership between West Dorset district council and Weymouth & Portland borough council has been running since 2011 and has already saved some £9 million.

Under the partnership, each authority will continue to have its own councillors who will continue to make local decisions about services.

Each council will continue to set its own budget, council tax and maintain its own identity and sovereignty but have shared strategic direction and greater influence.

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King's Arms hotel in receivership but still open

DORCHESTER'S King's Arms Hotel has gone into receivership, but remains open for business.

The hotel, once considered the principal hotel in the town, featured in Thomas Hardy's novels with the author reputed to drink there.

The joint receiver at Begbies Traynor, Steve Williams, said: "We were appointed as receivers on Wednesday January 7th, and we have appointed a specialist management company, Convivial Management Solutions, to continue to operate the hotel on our behalf."

"The property is owned by Host Properties Limited but it was operated by Starling Hotel Management limited.

"Prior to Christmas, the owners were in discussion with the mortgage company about the ongoing payment situation,



■ THE King's Arms Hotel, nearly 300 years old and looking for new owners

and whilst those discussions were ongoing the lender was informed Starling Hotels ceased to trade as of December 31st, so they had effectively closed the hotel.

Mr Williams said: "Effectively, it's business as usual. We want to keep the business alive, honouring the bookings and we

want to preserve the staff's employment, with a view to sell in due course."

The 37-bedroom hotel has been managed and run independently, although a member of the Best Western group.

The building is 288 years old and has had more than £1m spent re-

furbishing and upgrading it last year.

Trip Advisor reviewers generally give it a high rating with many comments praising the friendly and professional staff.

Best Western is currently offering rooms at the hotel with a 50 per cent discount.



■ RESIDENTS from Maiden Newton being collected by the Dorchester Disabled Club bus, with Ken Bodycombe, Magna community investment officer, CIF forum members Lynne and John Coombe and volunteer bus driver, Barry Hansford

Magna donation ensures bus service for elderly shoppers

DORCHESTER Disabled Club will be able to continue their door-to-door shopping trips thanks to support and funding from Magna housing association.

Dorchester Disabled Club runs monthly shopping trips from Broadmayne, Owermoigne, Maiden Newton, Puddletown and Tolpuddle to Dorchester town centre, Tesco, and to Weymouth. The service is offered to people who are unable to walk to the bus or carry their shopping.

Irene Calcutt, secretary of Dorchester Disabled Club, said: "We are committed to helping our elderly villagers with a door-

to-door shopping service.

"Some are frail and need help with their shopping bags and could not cope with public transport.

"By providing this service, residents can go to the shops without struggling."

Magna's community initiative fund (CIF) has donated £2,000 to the Dorchester Disabled Club to ensure the shopping service can continue.

Ken Bodycombe, community investment officer, said: "This is a vital service for our elderly residents in rural locations who find getting about more difficult than others.

"We were very keen to support

the application for funding."

Irene added: "The donation from Magna will fund our bus service for the next two years. We are very grateful for the money and support we have received from Magna."

The CIF allocates £120,000 a year to things which will improve the areas where Magna residents live and £30,000 to charities and organisations which provide services of benefit to residents.

To find out more and get an application form, contact Ken Bodycombe, community investment officer at Magna, on (01305) 216095 or email ken.bodycombe@magna.org.uk.

Supreme court to rule on motor cycles using unsurfaced lanes

A TEST case to stop motorcycle trail riders using unsurfaced lanes in Dorset is being held in the Supreme Court this week.

Dorset County Council has appealed over a decision that five specific lanes should be included on a legally-binding map at Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATS).

The council lost a judicial review at the Court of Appeal over the issue in 2013.

The case was initially brought by the Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF) which fights to preserve and promote legal motorcycling on unsurfaced green

lanes. The right also extends to 4x4s.

The affected lanes are Bailey Drove, Batcombe; Doles Hill Plantation, Cheselbourne; a track between Tarrant Gunville and Chettle; between Mearehay and Beaminster Down; and at Crabb's Barn Lane, Beaminster.

"We believe that the Court of Appeal did not take into account all of the evidence in this case, which is why we have applied to the Supreme Court for permission to appeal," said a County spokesman.

The legal action so far is thought to have cost Dorset council taxpayers around £40,000.

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Council move to name and shame 'real tax dodgers'

A LIBERAL Democrat motion to support the Action Aid campaign to end tax dodging was approved at West Dorset District Council, with only the Conservative executive voting against it.

New council leader, Anthony Alford, claimed the motion did not achieve anything that was not already being done, but Bridport Cllr Ros Kayes argued that the issue was about taking a stance, naming and shaming tax avoiders and creating a climate in which corporate tax avoidance is seen as something shameful rather than as something to be applauded.

"It also seems a case of double standards when we as a council pursue people on a low income for not paying their council tax, but are not prepared to support a motion like this which focuses on the real tax dodgers."

Dorchester Cllr Tim Harries said: "This is a matter of principle.

"We think tax dodging is wrong: if ever there was a motion that we could all be united on, this is it."

Fellow Dorchester councillor Cllr Stella Jones added: "Government is doing something but clearly not enough. The UK government is responsible for tax havens in the world through its crown dependencies and overseas territories.

"Last year government promised to make sure the public will be able to identify the real owners of UK companies. It now needs to ensure that tax haven authorities do the same."

Cllr Caroline Payne, who tabled the motion said: "I'm so pleased council has agreed to support this. It is something that really matters to the public. It's good for them to see that local councillors support their concerns."



■ GROUPS who received a grant in 2014 from the car boot fund

Car boot funds to be allocated to causes within 6.67 miles of market

NOMINATIONS are being invited from community organisations for the 2015 Dorchester Market Car Boot Fund.

around £750. A range of different projects can be considered, so long as they are making a difference to their local community.

Councillor Mary Penfold, chair of the panel which oversees the car boot funds allocation said: "We are very pleased to support this wonderful local initiative. I am sure that everyone who has a stall at the Dorchester car boot market will be pleased to know that the money collected each week is re-distributed as grants to so many worthy community projects."

The 2015 grant application closing date is April 30th with decisions made in June with successful groups invited to a celebration

The town centre weekly car boots are held every Sunday to raise money for local charities and community groups.

The proceeds are distributed annually in Dorchester and surrounding area to benefit projects operating within the town, or supporting residents living within a 6.67 mile radius of the market.

The income raised is distributed through a grants panel made up of Dorchester town council and West Dorset district council members.

Grants range from £50-£3000 with the average grant being

event in September to share news about their projects.

The application form and additional guidance can be found on the Dorset For You website at www.dorsetforyou.com/dorchestersgrants.

Alternatively groups can contact Community Development Officer Emma Scott who will email or post them details. She can be reached on 01305 252204 or 07971 220067, or email - e.scott@westdorsetweymouth.gov.uk

Emma said: "We are looking forward to hearing from a wide range of projects as usual which reflect how much good work is going on in our local communities"

Jewellers closes



■ HARDY'S jewellers on the corner of Cornhill and High East Street

A DORCHESTER High Street jewellers has closed, leaving local customers to pick up their repairs from its Sherborne branch.

Hardy's Jewellers, on the corner of Cornhill and High East Street, shut up shop in the New Year.

A notice on the door informs customers that any outstanding repairs can be picked up from their business at 42 Cheap Street, Sherborne, tel: (01935) 814540.

Any outstanding credit notes can also be exchanged there.

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Tumble dryers are causing more fires

FIREFIGHTERS from Dorset Fire & Rescue service have seen an increase in the number of fires in commercial premises involving tumble dryers and washing machines.

In the last two weeks, crews have attended three incidents of the type across Dorset.

The fire service is now urging commercial businesses that launder their own linen, towels or clothing to consider the fire risks and make sure they have the correct safeguards in place.

The key to this is having a current Fire Risk Assessment for the premises and ensuring that all laundry machines are maintained to a good standard.

Fire safety officer, Graham Kewley said: "We are in the process of carrying out checks on premises that are known to provide their own laundry service.

"However, all commercial premises should take this oppor-

tunity to review their procedures and ensure their laundry machines are properly maintained."

"This includes cleaning them regularly to remove fluff and ensuring that tumble dried items are cooled prior to being folded and stacked."

He added: "It is also important to ensure that a wash completely removes contaminants from washing before tumble drying, as oil and grease residue can significantly increase the risk of fabrics smouldering."

Having appropriate fire detection equipment will also warn occupants so they are able to escape.

Fire doors to risk rooms should also be maintained to ensure that they contain any fire."

Further advice and guidance is available from the fire safety team 01305 252600 or businessadvice@dorsetfire.gov.uk.



■ (LEFT to right): Dugald Lockhart (Superfast Dorset), County Councillors Andy Canning and Toni Coombs, Shawn Keys and Matt Chislett from State Of Mind Media based in Martinstown

Martinstown goes superfast

RESIDENTS of one of Dorset's oldest villages, Martinstown, has joined the fibre broadband network.

Superfast Dorset's 100th fibre broadband cabinet, on the B3159, has made the high-speed technology available to more than 300 village homes and businesses.

The £31.75 million Superfast Dorset programme has so far rolled out its fibre network to include locations such as Bridport, Charmouth, Puddletown, Broadmayne, Upwey and Bradpole.

The programme is led by the county council, working in partnership with BT and the govern-

ment body BDUK, with financial contributions and support from local councils.

State of Mind Media, a digital media company based in Martinstown, was one of the first in the village to place an order for fibre broadband. Owner Shawn Keys said: "Fibre broadband will make a fundamental difference to us as we are an internet based business.

"We will be able to reach customers globally and also benefit from employing freelancers."

Paul Coles, BT's South West regional manager, said: "The installation of Superfast Dorset's 100th fibre broadband cabinet demon-

strates the strong progress being achieved by the partnership. More than 270,000 households and businesses in Dorset now have access to fibre broadband when BT's own commercial rollout of the high-speed technology is also included.

"Whether you are starting a new business, working from home, studying or researching online or just going shopping, you can do it better with fibre broadband."

Dorset County Councillor for Linden Lea Division Andy Canning said: "It's great news that so many of our villages are now as quickly connected to the internet as our urban areas."

Museum to redevelop its archaeology department

THE Archaeology Gallery at Dorset County Museum is being redeveloped as part of a £250,000 project.

When the work is finished this summer the new gallery will become the visitor centre for the South Dorset Ridgeway. Ultimately it will link in with information panels to be displayed along the ridgeway itself helping visitors explore the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and understand the sites that can be seen there today.

"This is a very special project for us," said Jon Murden, director of Dorset county museum.

"The archaeology of Dorset is the history of over 10,000 years of human habitation in the county – our collections are nationally significant and cover the entire period from paleolithic times to Saxon and Viking Dorset."

The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) landscape partnership scheme and the south Dorset Ridgeway Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

When the new Ancient Dorset Gallery opens at the museum, the centrepiece will be a special display of the Viking skeletons found during the construction of the Weymouth Relief Road in 2009 which featured in a special TV programme.

During the initial work, from now until March, the existing gallery will be open but artefacts from some display cases will be removed for conservation.

While the work is being undertaken, visitors will be able to enjoy a special loan from the British Museum of three jadeite axes and some mace heads from their own collection.

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NHS 'needs to change' say commissioners

by Jack Dixon
jack@pemedia.co.uk

HEALTH bosses have announced plans for sweeping changes to services across the county, with the NHS in Dorset facing a shortfall of up to £200m over the next five years.

The Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which is responsible for planning and arranging healthcare for patients, has unveiled a 'case for change' to tackle what it describes as a "growing financial challenge".

Precise details of how services will change have not yet been released, but the CCG is carrying out an extensive review of the way healthcare is delivered.

Its 'case for change' document reveals a long list of pressures on NHS services which, the CCG says, it "cannot continue" to deliver in the same way.

According to its projections, the overall population will pass 800,000 with the number of people in Dorset over 70 expected to rise by almost a third by 2023, bringing with it an increase in the kinds of chronic illnesses that come with

longevity, like diabetes and dementia.

One striking aspect is that life expectancy varies by over 11 years between men living in the more deprived and more prosperous areas.

The report also revealed that more than half the patients currently admitted to community hospitals could, instead, be treated, cared for and supported at home.

A further third could be nursed in their own home, helping to maintain their independence.

And services are already unable to cope with the demand for emergency surgery, with the county's three acute hospitals sometimes falling below national quality standards because surgeons don't always have enough patients to maintain specialist skills.

The CCG's report also reveals that the number of stroke patients receiving a potentially life-saving brain scan within an hour is 10 per cent lower

than the national average, while the quality of care, particularly with cancer treatment, varies. There is similar variation in the quality of general practice throughout the area.

And in the field of mental health, while services are generally good, in some areas there is insufficient support provided to patients outside working hours, and there are not enough services for children with mental health conditions.

"The evidence we have gathered on the current picture of healthcare shows that most patients currently receive good care in Dorset, but there is too much variation, both against national standards and within Dorset itself," said Dr Forbes Watson, chairman of the CCG.

"In addition, we know our population is changing and getting older, and that brings new health demands we need to meet."

Access to NHS serv-

ices is a particular problem in West Dorset, according to the report, where one in four people do not have an easy public transport link to an acute hospital – more than double the number in other parts of the county.

And the group found that more than half the patients in Dorset

■ DR Forbes Watson, chairman of the Dorset CCG

are turning up at hospitals with only minor conditions that could be handled at home.

The report also highlights the need for seven-day consultant cover, particularly in maternity units, and warns that one in eight Dorset residents will suffer from heart disease and one in ten will suffer from diabetes by 2020.

The CCG claims there is a "compelling case" for services to adapt to changing needs that "cannot continue to be delivered in the same way."



Alongside the need to provide effective services for patients, the NHS in Dorset also faces a predicted shortfall – the gap between its income and its expenditure – of between £167m and £200m.

Dr Watson added: "The money we have to secure healthcare for local people is not increasing at the same rate as rising costs and demand."

"We want to make sure we are putting resources where they will give the best return and the maximum health gain for Dorset's population."

Are council mergers harming staff health?

MORE than 70 staff have left West Dorset District Council since the partnership started with Weymouth & Portland Borough Council, with fears for the health of those who remain.

In 2012-13 a total of 41 staff left, 7.4 percent of the total, representing 33 voluntary retirements and eight redundancies.

In 2013-14 the figures were 33, made up of 25 retirements and eight redundancies.

Retiring council leader Robert Gould said in a statement at his last meeting as leader in Dorchester that the staff were leaving the authority because of an upturn in the private sector rather than as a response to the changes taking place at the authority.

Liberal Democrats questioned the rationale offered by the council leader: "We know that this has been a period of extreme stress for staff, with many having received changes to their pay grades and their wages, and we are concerned that the forthcoming merger with North Dorset will heighten the pressure," said Dorchester councillor Stella Jones, Liberal Democrat group leader.

And Councillor Ros Kayes, from Bridport said: "Staff in an organisation are the oil which makes the machine run smoothly."



■ COUNCILLOR Stella Jones, Liberal Democrat leader

"When staff are worried, experiencing stress or increased workload, their health suffers, as does that of the organisation."

"It is no accident that many staff are leaving and opting for a role in the private sector. Morale is not good and it is our duty to look after the wellbeing of our employees."

"We have called again and again for proper support for staff in what will be yet another series of service reviews, the third in six years."

"We would still like to see concrete proposals for supporting staff through these changes from the new chief executive, and, despite repeated requests we have had no such commitment."

BRIDPORT AUCTION HOUSE (ESTABLISHED 1994)

Some results from our well attended sale on the 5th January

Military books & manuals...£120 Studio Pottery vase...£130

A 1945 journal relating to travels in Tibet...£500

Moorcroft vase...£210 Postcard Album...£160

Painted leather shield...£170 Boat Compass...£80

1930's handwritten diaries...£420 Bridport Stoneware flagon...£75

Photograph Albums...£360 Box of old cigars..£200

Coral bead necklace..£140 Coin Collection..£550

2nd WW Army Uniform...£260 Assorted loose engravings...£150

Watercolour by Cecil Aldin...£190 Costume Jewellery...£220

Emerald Ring...£250 Military Pocket Watch...£120

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Drivers urged to car-share to save fuel

DORSET drivers are being encouraged to sign up to a county council-run car sharing database.

The website, carsharedorset.com has been going for ten years this year, but has only had limited success in persuading people to sign up, despite tens of thousands of pounds being spent on the project.

A county council news release failed to mention how many people actively use the service, but since it started only 3,600 have signed up.

The service says that by sharing an 11-mile journey with just one other person you could save

£322 per year in fuel. Your savings could increase to £429 a year by sharing with two other people.

The website helps find a match for a lift and also features a calculator which calculates how much you can save.

A search on the website this week revealed six people seeking or offering lifts between Dorchester and Weymouth and ten on the Dorchester to Bridport route.

Individuals and businesses that are keen to save money and reduce their carbon emissions are being encouraged to sign up.

You can sign up whether offer-

ing a lift, or in need of one. The site is available at www.carsharedorset.com

County council cabinet member for environment and the economy, Cllr Peter Finney said: "Running a car has mounting costs, in terms of petrol, maintenance and parking expenses. Car sharing is a fantastic way to save money, reduce congestion on our roads and is a sociable way to travel.

"I would encourage everyone simply to register their journey and do a search. No matter where you live, you'll be surprised to find how many other people are going your way."

Workshop to help disadvantaged back into employment

A WORKSHOP is being held in Dorchester to help local organisations who help disadvantaged people back into work, or training.

During the year up to £10million will be made available in the county from the EU/BIG Lottery Fund to help boost economic development in the county.

Some of the money will be earmarked for tackling barriers to eco-

nomic inclusion - including childcare, health conditions or disabilities.

The workshop takes place on Wednesday, January 28th from 9.30am to 12.30pm at the Dorford centre in Bridport Road.

The workshop will help organisations understand the requirements and aims of the programme.

The workshop is free although places are limited and will be al-



■ ALEX PICOT OF DORSET COMMUNITY ACTION

located on a first-come, first-served basis.

More information about the workshops and the 'Building better opportunities' programme are available from Alex Picot, Dorset Community Action in Acland Road, Dorchester, tel: (01305) 250921, or email alex.picot@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

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News in brief...

■ BLOOD DONOR SESSIONS are being held at the United Church, South Street, Dorchester next Thursday, January 22nd.

Two sessions will be taking place, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm and from 4.30pm to 7pm.

To book an appointment donors are asked to visit the website blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 2323.

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Exercise Help for Cancer Survivors

AN EXERCISE based cancer rehabilitation service is available in Dorchester to all cancer survivors.

Learn more and meet Laura, cancer exercise specialist, for an informal chat on Monday, January 19th at 10.30am at Jester's Cafe, Trinity Street, Dorchester

To book your place or for more information, please contact Laura on 07779 943 430 or email lauraspencer2001@hotmail.com

Exercise Help for Cancer Survivors

Monday, January 19th at 10.30am at Jester's Cafe, Trinity Street, Dorchester

To book your place or for more details call 07779 943 430 or email lauraspencer2001@hotmail.com

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Students lobby parliament in 'goodie' company

KINGSTON Maurward students met TV naturalist Bill Oddie during a lobby at parliament to persuade MPs to back a ban on people keeping primates as pets.

The students, on the foundation-degree course in animal behaviour and welfare, were taking part in the lobby, organised by leading primate charity, Wild Futures.

It estimates that up to 20,000 primates, including tamarinds,

squirrel monkeys and chimpanzees, are being kept as pets in this country, many of which are abused and neglected.

Mr Oddie spoke to the students about their course, the college, and Operation Wallacea, an international organisation that helps students work in the conservation industry across the world.

Whilst MPs concluded that there was insufficient evidence

to change current legislation, the students found the experience invaluable.

Wild Futures ambassador and Kingston Maurward tutor, Lee Read, said: "Our students learn about legislation in their course, so this conference was a great way to demonstrate the process in action; and it was inspiring for us to be with like-minded people discussing a topic we're all passionate about."



■ Kingston Maurward college students lobbying parliament with Bill Oddie

Sustainable living group seeks public's views

THE group 'Communities living sustainably' (CLS) is trying to discover local people's awareness, attitudes and behaviour with respect to climate change and the environment.

CLS ran a similar survey last year and found that the majority of respondents felt they understood the causes and impacts of climate change and how to be environmentally friendly. While many said they always took simple environmentally friendly actions like turning off the tap when brushing their teeth, a significant proportion of respondents'

homes weren't fully insulated and didn't use simple water saving devices.

Emily Bullock, greener choices co-ordinator for CLS said: "We were really encouraged last year to see what people are already doing to be environmentally friendly, and that most people would like to do even more.

"We hope that events such as 'Open eco homes' and 'Draught-busters', along with our 'Eco-schools and food' programmes will have helped them to do so.

"We'd love to hear as many local views as

possible we would ask people to fill in the survey, whether they did it last year or not."

All those who take part in the survey will have the option to enter a free prize draw to win a hamper of local food provided by the Real Food Shop. With 25% of all lorries on the road carrying food, sourcing food locally helps to cut greenhouse gas emissions as well as support the local economy."

The survey, open until 6th Feb 2015, can be found at www.cls-dorset.org.uk and click on 'Greener choices'. Hard copies are available from Emily@da21.org.uk or by phone: 07507 321 954.

towards the environment.

"This will help shape our work, and help us measure changes since last year. We are also delighted to support the Real Food Shop. With 25% of all lorries on the road carrying food, sourcing food locally helps to cut greenhouse gas emissions as well as support the local economy."

The survey, open until 6th Feb 2015, can be found at www.cls-dorset.org.uk and click on 'Greener choices'. Hard copies are available from Emily@da21.org.uk or by phone: 07507 321 954.

WEST Dorset MP, Oliver Letwin, will be the guest speaker at a business breakfast at the end of the month to support Apprenticeship Week.

Mr Letwin will be at the Kingston Maurward college Business Breakfast at 7.45am on Friday, January 30th.

The event is supported by Dorchester Chamber of Commerce, Porter Dodson Solicitors and Advisors and Hartley's Accountants.

College students and apprentices who will be organising the event, and be on hand to explain what being an apprentice is like, and how they could help your business.

This event is open to all businesses. Tickets are £5 per person and limited to a maximum of two per business.

Bookings can be made via the chamber website, www.dorchesterchamber.co.uk.

News in brief...

■ MARTINSTOWN FIRE: a fire in a barn at Martinstown during the early hours of Sunday morning led to the death of four cattle.

Fire fighters from Dorchester were called out shortly before 5.30am and extinguished burning straw bales which had already been moved from the building by farm staff.

Three heifers and one bull calf died from the effects of smoke.

■ NOVICE TRIATHLETES are being invited to give the sport a go at the Dorchester Dash Triathlon.

The event, on Sunday, August 30th, starts at the sports centre's indoor 25m pool with a 400m swim, followed by a 24km scenic bike course which takes competitors to Hardy's Monument.

Finally the competitors take part in a 5km run to Maiden Castle and back.

Relay teams are welcome to participate with start times from 8.00am.

Further details are available from the Dorchester sports centre in Coburg Road, tel: (01305) 858400.

■ CERNE ABBAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY is holding its annual meeting and exhibition in the village hall next Thursday, January 22nd at 7.30pm.

■ CROSSWAYS' PANTO, 'SNOW WHITE' opens at the village hall on Friday, February 6th at 7.30pm with a matinee (2.30pm) and evening performance (7.30pm) on the following day.

The Crossways Pantomimes have been rehearsing for the production since the autumn.

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for under 15s, available from Premier Stores, Mount Skipped Way, Crossways or on the door. For more information, call (01305) 549737.

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News in brief...

■ DORCHESTER ASSOCIATION is holding a meeting in the county museum on Friday, January 16th when Jill Pope will be talking about the changes in Fordington Manor between late Georgian and late Victorian times.

The meeting, which starts at 7.30pm, costs £2 for non-members, with tickets available on the door.

■ AGE UK WILLS ADVICE: Dorchester's Age UK is offering an appointment-only 'surgery' about wills and other aspects of family finance this week.

Those who book for the Friday 16th session will be able to talk about powers of attorney and other legal aspects of home and finances with local solicitor, Cordelia English.

Appointments are available from 9.30am to 12 noon at Age UK Dorchester, Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester, DT1 1PW.

To book one of the slots or for further details of Age UK Dorchester services, telephone 01305 269444 or visit the website: www.ageukdorchester.org.uk.

■ CHARLTON DOWN HISTORY GROUP will meet on Wednesday, January 21st for a talk from Bruce Upton, from the Bridport museum trust, on "Back in the Old Days."

It will look at farming and village life in West Dorset from late Victorian times to the coming of the Second World War.

The meeting takes place at the Herrison Hall at 7.30pm and costs £3 for guests, £2 for group members.

■ LANDSCAPE ART EXHIBITION is on show in the Dorset county museum from now until mid-March.

Local charities help Rotary club raise £7,500 for good causes

AROUND £7,500 is being put to good use in and around Dorchester, thanks to this year's Rotary Christmas raffle.

Thirty nine local charities and charitable organisations became involved in selling the tickets. The Rotary club also sold tickets to supplement the income, boosting their own efforts by 5%.

All of the money will go back to the groups involved.

The winning ticket was drawn by the town mayor, Councillor Peter Mann, in the company of club members. They were joined by John Scott, managing director of Futuram, the main sponsor.

"The club members would like to pay tribute to all the participating organisations for what they do and the devotion of their members and supporters to their cause.

"The sponsors also are vital to any such organisation of this type, providing valued support for the club and its efforts to help the Dorchester community.

"This brings to life the Rotary Motto of 'Service above Self', " said club spokesman Peter Noble.



■ THE mayor, Cllr Peter Mann with Peter Noble (Rotarian, centre) and John Scott, managing director of Futuram, the main sponsor

Volunteers needed for butterfly habitats

VOLUNTEERS are needed for a series of work parties in the Dorchester area which will improve the local habitat for butterflies and other creatures.

This Thursday, January 15th, the group will be clearing gorse and thorn in the Nether Cerne-Godmanstone area.

Work starts at 8.45am with lifts available from Dorchester and

Weymouth.

On Saturday, January 17th the group will be carrying out similar work at Alners Gorse Butterfly Reserve, Hazelbury Bryan and on Wednesday, January 21st will be drystone walling with the Dorset midweek volunteers at Corton Down.

The following week, on Thursday, January 22nd habitat im-

provement work takes place at Yelcombe Bottom above Cerne Abbas and on Friday, January 23rd there will be a work party at Perryfields butterfly reserve, Portland, to remove scrub and rank grasses to make sure the reserve is ready for the butterfly season.

Call Nigel Spring on 07981 776767 for further details.

News in brief...

■ FUTURE OF AREA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP will be discussed on Monday, January 19th.

Faced with possible changes to its funding a steering group is inviting local organisations, partners and parishes in the area to come along to the workshop, at South Walks House between 4.00pm and 6.00pm, to discuss and explore ideas and options for how the partnership moves forward, and possible alternative structures for the partnership.

For further information call co-ordinator Pauline Trimming on Dorchester (01305) 216403.

■ STORIES FROM THE DORSET ARCHIVES will be told at a talk to Crossways local history group on Tuesday, January 20th.

The 7.30 pm meeting in the village library, will hear from Maria Gayton from the Dorset History Centre, .

The meeting will be particularly useful to anyone starting to trace their family tree, or someone with a particular interest in the county's history.

The meeting is open to non-members and costs £3 (£2 if you are a member).

■ HISTORICAL DANCE master at the National Trust's Barrington Court Ann Hinchliffe will be leading sessions at the Town Hall, Dorchester on Thursday evenings from January 22nd.

The sessions will run from 7.30pm to 10.30pm and cost £6 with concessions available for £5.

To book contact Ann on 01935 472771 or email@medifference@live.co.uk.

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Dorset's writers asked to send stories for e-anthologies

Dorset writers' network has embarked on a year-long project which will see two anthologies produced.

Funded by Arts Council England's grants for the arts and Dorset Community Foundation, the project will be running free workshops across the county.

Two e-book anthologies will be produced, one by adults living in Dorset, the second by

pupils in our secondary schools.

To join in the fun of creating a short story of 500 words, contact sue@ dorsetwritersnetwork.co.uk.

The group's adult e-book competition, Dorset Digital Stories, will be launched on Saturday, January 24th at 2.30pm in Dorchester Library with a reading by author Natasha Solomons from her

latest work.

The event is free, but booking essential, telephone Dorchester Library on 01305 224440.

The Dorset Writers' Network was established in October 2010 to support writing groups in the community or develop an individual's skills as a writer. The network provides workshops, author events and training days.

Council supports new arts initiative

PLANS are moving forward to set up a community interest company (CIC) for Dorset County Council's arts related services.

Members gave their seal of approval for the pioneering new initiative, the first of its kind in the country at a cabinet meeting in December.

The CIC, or the Arts Development Company as it will be known, will be an independent employee-owned company, supported by the county council.

With funding cuts from the national government on a scale never seen before, creating an independent company could help sustain local arts services for the future.

The move will open up doors for new income streams, including funding from the national lottery as well as private investment and charitable giving and create an environment for arts services to develop and flourish in the future.

The plans have already been endorsed by the Arts Council England, and it is envisaged the new CIC will start trading in April 2015 and deliver arts programmes as well as administer grants to arts-re-

lated organisations in Dorset.

A recent public consultation showed that there is a significant amount of support for the initiative: just over 80 per cent of respondents were in favour of the move, only seven per cent disagreed.

The county council will continue to support the arts service through a contract. It has also agreed to refurbish the Little Keep building up to a total of £300,000 to provide a base for the Arts Development Company that can also serve as a hub for a wide range of arts organisations. The CIC will repay this £300,000 in annual instalments.

Working with a range of partners, the company will provide training, advice and guidance, conferences and consultancies to enhance the work in the sector and achieve efficiencies. With dwindling funds available to all local authorities across the country, the goal is to widen the funding available to the company within the next four years.

Cllr Colin Jamieson, member for community services, said: "The aim of the CIC is to work in a more creative way, and take advantage of funding opportunities not open to local authorities."

DORSET Wildlife Trust (DWT) has a number of events and activities to get involved with during February.

On Saturday, February 7th, from 10.00am to 4.00pm there will be a Wild Lorton Day in Weymouth at the Lorton Meadows Wildlife Centre off Lorton Lane, Dorchester Road. The centre will be open for visitors to walk around the reserve or enjoy a hot drink and browse gifts and wildlife books. Visitors can also watch birds on the feeders on screen and find out what to feed their garden birds during the colder months.

On Tuesday, February 10th, south Dorset mid-week volunteers will be tackling habitat management on a DWT nature reserve. Please contact DWT warden James Hitchen on 07436 157 328 for details.

Lorton Meadows in Weymouth will be hosting a volunteers conservation task on Wednesday, February 11th from 10.00am to 3.00pm which involves practical work on site to restore the habitats important for local wildlife. Tools, gloves and drinks are supplied. No experience is necessary but volunteers should bring a packed lunch.

On Saturday, February 14th, from noon to 3.00pm the Chesil Beach centre between Weymouth and Portland will be

using the Valentine's weekend to help people make gifts for wildlife in their garden to show how much they love them! All ages are welcome and visitors can try crafts ranging from 50 pence to £3. More information is available on (01305) 206191.

Caterpillar kids will be creating miniature reserves at Lorton Meadows on Tuesday, February 17th from 10.30am to 12.30pm at a family event which costs £2 per child. Visitors can explore the woods, meadows and ponds of the nature reserve before creating their own mini version to take home. There will also be games and other activities with the community conservation officer. All children must be accompanied by an adult and booking is essential. Please contact (01305) 816546.

The next day, Wednesday, February 18th, Caterpillar kids are back again at Lorton Meadows making boggarts of the wild woods at a family event from 10.30am to 12.30pm which costs £2 per child. Visitors can discover the creatures of wild Withy Woods, make boggarts for the trees and wood elf puppets to take home. There will also be games with the community conservation officer. All children must be accompanied by an adult and booking is essential on (01305) 816546.

On Thursday, February 19th, the Chesil Code Crackers will be at the Chesil Beach Centre for sessions at 11am and 2pm. Visitors can use their powers of observation and investigation to solve clues in and around the Chesil Beach Centre to crack the secret Chesil code, learning about local wildlife as they go. It costs £2 per child and more details are available on 01305-206191.

Finally on Wednesday, February 25th, there is a volunteers conservation task at Lorton Meadows from 10am-3pm restoring important habitat for local wildlife. Tools, gloves and drinks are supplied. No experience is necessary, but people should bring a packed lunch.



■ WOOD boggart

Advertiser's Announcements

Scott Rowe Solicitors expand dispute resolution team

LOCAL firm Scott Rowe have appointed Associate Solicitor Kate Maslen to head their Commercial Dispute Resolution team.

Kate, who qualified in 2004, has joined from an Exeter firm. Kate handles all types of disputes and acts for both individual and business clients, from the sole trader to the PLC.

Practice manager and Director Kevin Bull says: "We are delighted to have Kate join us. Kate's experience in a wide range of contentious matters means that we can help more clients with a broader range of problems."

Although the main aim of her work is dispute resolution, Kate is qualified to represent clients at Court. Kate believes that this gives clients best value for money and continuity by having one person able to take a case through to its conclusion.

Kate can be contacted through the Axminster office where she is based, on 01297 32345, or by email on kate.maslen@scottrowe.co.uk.

Appointments can also be arranged at the Chard and Lyme Regis offices if required.

Kate says "I am really looking forward to the new challenges that working for a busy, well respected solicitor's practice will

Scott Rowe

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For further information about the legal services Scott Rowe offers please visit our website www.scottrowe.co.uk.



Elderly invited to have their say on sheltered housing

OLDER people are encouraged to have their say on the future of sheltered housing in Dorset.

Working in partnership with housing association landlords, Dorset county council provides support to over 5,000 householders living in sheltered housing.

The council is keen to hear their views on how they would like to see the service developed for the future.

Sheltered housing schemes consist of self-contained flats or bungalows, often with communal areas and all with access to a support worker. All schemes provide 24-hour emergency help through an alarm system.

The council is committed to working in partnership with residents, carers, the voluntary sector, care and housing providers, as well as the private sector to allow older people to remain independent in their

own homes, avoiding the need for admission to hospital or residential care.

Cllr Jill Haynes, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "There are some great examples of housing schemes for older people in Dorset, and we want to build on this and provide a range of housing options for older people that meet their needs."

People who live in extra care housing also have their own self-contained homes, but with more care options available to them. A recent review of extra care housing found that there was considerable demand for more schemes across Dorset. Such schemes were a really valuable way of avoiding the need for people to move into residential care.

The review of sheltered housing which the council plans, will complement this work and help shape future investments to help support people to remain independent with

support in the local community.

Cllr Jill Haynes, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "There are some great examples of housing schemes for older people in Dorset, and we want to build on this and provide a range of housing options for older people that meet their needs."

"Support for older people to remain independent for as long as possible is one of the key priorities for the county council, and we want to hear people's views on how sheltered housing helps us achieve this."

"We want to invest in services that are affordable, sustainable and, most importantly, better suited to each individual."

To have your say, log onto: www.dorsetforyou.com/housing-support-review or write to Cllr Jill Haynes, Dorset County Council, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ.

NEW events are being launched by Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) as it steps up its modernisation plans for 2015.

The business support organisation is improving and expanding its calendar with fresh initiatives, including free 'Simply Networking' sessions, chief executive lunches and conferences.

DCCI is ramping up its programme after launching an ambitious five year plan at its latest annual meeting.

Chief executive Ian Girling said: "It has been extremely encouraging to see demand

rise for our programme of high quality events and activities over the past 12 months.

"We will be building on this success to expand our calendar to meet increased demand from the business community, deliver greater benefits for our members and help drive growth in Dorset.

"Our aim is to provide up to date knowledge and information on key business issues as well as provide great networking opportunities."

He added: "As the economic recovery continues to gain traction, we are determined to ensure that businesses in Dorset are best placed to achieve their own ambitions and contribute to the county's continuing economic growth."

The Simply Networking sessions will be held twice monthly at different venues across the

Businesses will also be able to raise their profile at the conferences, chief executive lunches and wider events through sponsorship opportunities.

The sponsorship packages have just been finalised and businesses are urged to get in touch to become involved.

DCCI, which has more than 700 members representing 37,000 employees, adds the new sessions



■ IN London for the British Chambers of Commerce annual conference

county from 8.00am to 9.30am. These will be exclusive to DCCI members.

The chief executive lunches will be held twice-yearly with a guest speaker at high-calibre venues.

They are exclusively for business owners and decision makers to meet and discuss key policy issues.

DCCI will also be running conferences alongside its core events programme.

to its popular calendar of more 90 events.

There are also quarterly 'meet the chamber' events when new and non-members to meet the chamber team

and other business people, and hear about the benefits of membership.

For more details about attending and sponsorship opportunities, contact Vikki Southern (01202) 714800 or vikki.southern@dcci.co.uk.



■ DCCI's CEO Ian Girling

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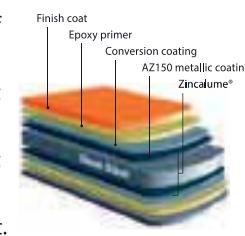
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Advertiser's Announcement

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senior schools in recent years. Sport plays a large part in school life taking place 5 days per week; all children will perform on stage every year and the majority will also play one or more musical instrument.

Perrott Hill Spring Term Open Mornings
Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th
January 2015.

Perrott Hill Scholarship Day
Friday 6th
February 2015.

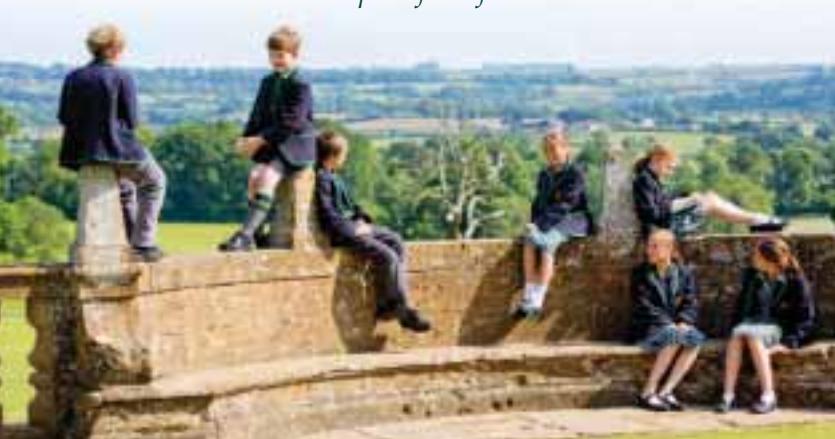
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Lack of demand leads to fertility clinic closure

THE fertility treatment clinic at Dorchester's private Winterbourne Hospital is to close in the spring following a decrease in demand for the service.

Treatment cycles which have already started for patients will be completed.

The centre, which opened in 1993, once had a 57 per cent success rate, making it one of the top four in the country.

"With a gradual decrease in demand for fertility services at

the Winterbourne Hospital in recent years we have decided that there are not sufficient cases to continue the service," said a spokesman for BMI Healthcare.

"We will be writing to current patients to explain that their treatment cycles will be completed at The Winterbourne before the service closes in three months' time and we will not be accepting new patients whose treatment cannot be com-

pleted within that timescale."

"We appreciate that this is a sensitive issue for our patients and we are making appropriate arrangements for their continuing care at other facilities where this is required.

"Should any patients wish to discuss this they can speak to Sister Hilary Macleod at the hospital on 01395 756623."

The closure will not affect any of the other services the hospital provides.

Alford elected to lead WDDC

WEST Dorset District Council has elected Cllr Anthony Alford as its new leader.

Cllr Alford was voted in at Full Council on Thursday following Cllr Robert Gould stepping down after becoming leader of Dorset County Council.

Cllr Alford said: "I'm pleased to have been elected as district council leader. Local government is going through some big changes and will continue to face huge financial challenges in the future. I'm confident we can continue to successfully face these challenges head on."

"I would also like to thank Robert Gould for his years of service to the role and wish him the best as leader of county council."

Cllr Alford has represented the Netherbury Ward for the district council since May 2003 and has

been vice chairman of the Executive Committee since 2007.

Outgoing leader Cllr Gould said he was looking forward to fresh challenges, but looked back fondly on his time as district council leader.

His tenure saw the council deliver a number of flagship projects including the new Dorchester Sports Centre, Lyme Regis coastal defence works, move to more efficient offices and partnership working with Weymouth & Portland and North Dorset councils.

He said: "I am very sorry to be stepping down as district council leader. It has been an immense privilege to lead the district council since 2004."

"We have achieved so much but the main focus has been to ensure sound financial management and to keep our share of



■ CLLR Anthony Alford, newly elected leader of WDDC

the council tax low.

"I am delighted that Tony Alford is the new leader as he has all the necessary experience and ability to take the council forward in challenging times."

Smokers pay over £2,500 a year for habit

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to inspire people to put smoking behind them.

Public Health Dorset is encouraging people who would like to stop smoking to think carefully about their reasons for wanting to quit, and then to make a pledge to take action in 2015.

Every year, thousands of people attempt to quit smoking during January and February.

Every smoker has their own reasons for wanting to quit, with family, money and health all being strong factors.

The campaign, called Make Tobacco History, seeks to inspire people by telling the stories of other local people who have either quit smoking or who will be attempting to quit during January.

These are stories about the struggles that people have had, how they've overcome them and how much better life can be after smoking.

Each successful quitter also helps to get us closer to a completely smoke-free society.

"Taking that next step to becoming an ex-smoker is no easy task,

but by making a firm commitment, getting the right support, and by knowing you're not alone in trying to quit, your chances of being successful are greatly improved."

Quitting has significant health benefits:

- within 20 minutes your blood pressure and pulse rate return to normal
- after one year the risk of dying from heart disease is reduced by half
- within two years the risk of stroke is reduced to half and within five years it will be the same as a non-smoker.

Tomorrow is deadline for school places

DORSET parents are being reminded that applications for their child's reception school place have to be in by January 15th.

As it stands, over a thousand Dorset children still have not had an application submitted for them.

Children born between September 1st 2010 and August 31st 2011 should start school in September 2015, and parents have until tomorrow (Thursday, January 15th) to apply for a school place.

Dorset county council handles school admissions for the county and is reminding parents that they must apply now to be in with a chance of securing a place at one of their preferred schools.

Cllr Toni Coombs, cabinet member for education at Dorset County Council, said: "We want to make sure that parents don't forget to send us their applications.

"Starting school is a major milestone in a child's life and I cannot stress enough how

important it is that families apply on time, as submitting an application late affects the likelihood of being allocated a place at their preferred school."

All the information, including an online application form, is available at www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions.

If parents apply online they will be able to view the outcome of their application on dorsetforyou.com on April 16th.

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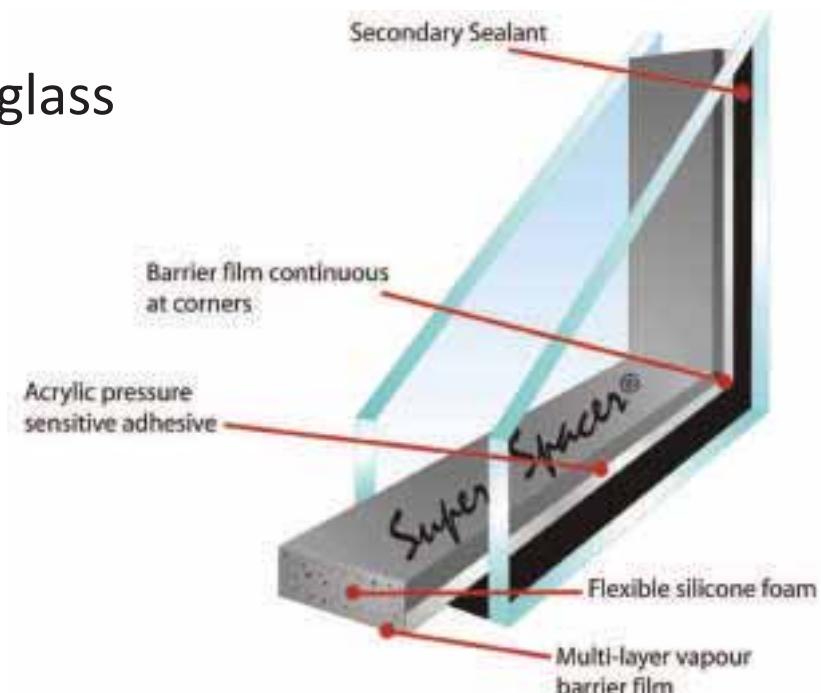
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Homes & Interiors

Let these local businesses help make your house a home

Symondsbury Estate - Old Times



OLD Times is the newest addition to Manor Yard at Symondsbury Estate and is located just behind Symondsbury Kitchen. It stocks an ever changing array of pieces from quirky vintage to antiques, all assisting to decorate your home with a unique flair. All of the stock is continuously changing with exclusive finds from all over the UK. It's an eclectic mix of items on sale which range from c1800's right up to the present day and include a variety of stylish collectables, vintage textiles, china, ceramics, salvaged architectural items, automobilia, grandfather clocks and cameras along with some good old fashioned junk!

Because of the unique nature of each piece we do not usually carry duplicates in our stock and therefore if you are interested in any specific item we will do our best to reserve or source items for you.

The team at Old Times also undertake house clearances and buy unwanted items, anything is considered. A restoration service is also offered.

If you're looking for unique items full of practicality and charm then you won't be disappointed with Old Times.



OLD TIMES

Vintage, Retro, Upcycled

Open 7 days a week from 10am until 4pm

An Interesting mix of things from the past - Tools, Furniture, Kitchenalia, Art Deco, Paintings, Clocks & much more

Pop along and have a look - you won't be disappointed!

Tel: 07800 912530

Manor Yard, Mill Lane, Symondsbury, DT6 6HG
Just behind Symondsbury Kitchen

Peter Guest Loft Conversions

LOFT conversions are an ideal way of increasing the living area of your house, without eating into your valuable garden space. Loft conversions are a guaranteed way of increasing the value of your house simply by turning your unused attic into a stylish new living space. Devon and Dorset Loft Conversions of Lyme Regis specialise in both internal and external alterations as well as loft conversions. We also carry out renovation work to a high standard.

Having worked in the West Country for 25 years we have specialised in loft conversions but have also built many fine homes and extensions.

We fit a wide range of dormers, velux roof windows and balconies. We have fitted traditional, modern and spiral staircases too.

We work on both listed and new properties, and do all types of carpentry and building work. No job is too small or large.

- We work closely with the client
- Liaise with planning and building control
- All work is carried out under EEC and building regulations
- Project manage all aspects of building work from start to finish
- Organise all contractors, electricians, plumbers and architects
- All work is guaranteed
- We have public liability insurance
- All employees are considerate to your needs and are clean and tidy
- Free survey and estimates
- References are available



Jim Larcombe Architectural Consultant

JIM Larcombe specialises in bringing a touch of contemporary architecture to the area. He has built up a reliable team that follows the same views and helps deliver a high quality finish to your property. Jim can also deliver a high quality design that suits your needs, whether it is a simple Kitchen extension in keeping with the existing property, or whether you want that touch of modernism, he can put those ideas into practice.

With regular contact with estate agents, he can help you find your dream property or seek advice on the improvements required to sell your property.

With more people opting to work from home, why not explore the idea of having a new space added to your property specially designed to your requirements. Jim has recently been designing a number of multifunctional spaces to suit the clients needs. With a list of contractors that can help deliver the perfect home work space.

Some of Jim's other recent projects include:

- Two storey rear extension to split level bungalow.
- Extensions to 1970s properties.
- Barn conversion into B&B Accommodation
- Former Listed Public House with conversion work and alterations
- Two Contemporary New Builds with sea view
- Modern extension to character cottage & many more...

Travelling is never an issue, currently Jim has jobs covering areas up to Yeovil, Dorchester and across to Sidmouth, as well as work further afield in the London area. So why not give Jim a ring and see how he can help.

Since setting up his business in March 2011, Jim has also completed projects ranging from a small Kitchen Extension through to detached garages and ancillary accommodation, Listed Barn Conversions and was also part of the team associated with gaining the Outline Planning Approval for a new primary school

If you are looking to start building in the early part of 2015, then now is the time to contact Jim for an initial discussion about your project.

With a large knowledge of the local area, Jim is very keen on helping to provide low cost housing in the area. With first time buyers struggling to get onto the market, he is keen to pass on his knowledge and advice to help provide this much-needed local requirement.

Keep an eye out for Jim's new look website coming late 2014, including some of his recent projects.

J Larcombe
ARCHITECTURAL
CONSULTANT

Surveys • Scheme Designs • Tendering
Building Regulations • Site Supervision

m: 07824 861909

w: www.jimlarcombe.co.uk

e: info@jimlarcombe.co.uk

Free initial consultation

DEVON & DORSET LOFT CONVERSIONS



INTERNAL & EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS

For a quote or advice please call 01297 443061 or 07785 500603 or visit our website www.loftconversions-lymeregis.co.uk

*The ultimate leisure guide
for Dorset*

VIEW 2

IT'S A MIRACLE!

The highly entertaining *Dr Livingstone, I Presume?* comes to Dorchester

See page 23



TRANSMISSION

Your guide to local live music

upcoming gigs

Friday 16 Jan
Arts Centre, BRIDPORT
Elaine Davies and Philip Clouts
8pm. £10

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**Sunday 25 Jan**  
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT  
**Amy Mayes** 4-6pm

**Saturday 17 Jan**  
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT  
**Slither**  
9.30pm

Re-loved Vintage & Tea Rooms/Bistro, 2 Cornhill, DORCHESTER

**Bernardo playing Vintage Guitar**  
7pm. Free entry, booking advised - 01305 257070.

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Sunday 18 Jan
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT
Richard Kennedy
4-6pm

~~~  
**Saturday 24 Jan**  
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT  
**The Esplanades**  
9.30pm

Nags Head, LYME REGIS  
**On The Nash**

Re-loved Vintage & Tea Rooms/Bistro, 2 Cornhill, DORCHESTER

**Bernardo playing Vintage Guitar**  
7pm. Free entry, booking advised - 01305 257070.

Moens Farm House, Uploders, BRIDPORT  
**Blind Buffalo Quartet**  
7.30pm. £6. Book at [www.fannyhatstand.com](http://www.fannyhatstand.com)

~~~  
Friday 30 Jan
Marine Theatre, LYME REGIS
Southern Tenant Folk Union
Doors 7.15pm. £13.50/£12.50

~~~  
**Saturday 31 Jan**  
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT  
**Dinosaur Cafe**  
9.30pm

Arts Centre, BRIDPORT  
**Tales from India**  
8pm. £12/£11/£10

Nags Head, LYME REGIS  
**Grouvecat**  
Re-loved Vintage & Tea Rooms/Bistro, 2 Cornhill, DORCHESTER

**Bernardo playing Vintage Guitar**  
7pm. Free entry, booking advised - 01305 257070.

~~~  
Sunday 1 Feb
Crown Inn, BRIDPORT
Jamming at the Crown 4-7pm

Ropemakers, BRIDPORT
Bernardo playing Continental Guitar
1-3pm. Free admission.

Forging a breath-taking path on the UK folk scene

MAISERY TRIO ARE THE NEW LADIES OF FOLK

FORGED from the voices of Hannah James, Hazel Askew and Rowan Rheingans, Lady Maisery explore vocal harmony to breathtaking effect, through their fresh interpretations of songs and ballads.

They released their debut album 'Weave & Spin' in 2012 and as a result, were nominated for a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award. 2013 saw the release of their critically acclaimed second album 'Mayday', which reached the number one slot in BBC Radio 3's Late Junction 'Top 10 Releases of the Summer', was made a 'Top of the World' album by Songlines magazine and was given 5 stars by The Financial Times.

As well as enchanting audiences with innovative re-workings of old songs and ballads, Lady Maisery break new ground as one of the first UK groups to explore the tradition of 'diddling' or 'tune singing', which has nearly died out in England, but is still prevalent in Scandinavia and other parts of Europe. Whether singing unaccompanied or with backing by intelligent, striking arrangements on fiddle, harp, banjo accordion and foot percussion, be prepared to be enchanted by rich harmonies and sumptuous clashes as Lady Maisery emerge as one of the most original new

groups on the UK folk scene.

Lady Maisery play at Piddletrenthide Memorial hall on Thursday, January 22nd at 7.30pm (o book or for more details call 01300 348247).

The band then perform on Friday, January 23rd at 7.30pm at Frampton Village Hall (call 07968 586906).

For more details visit www.artsreach.co.uk.



Lady Maisery

the venues

To advertise your live music call
Rob Coombe on
01297 446146 or email
rob.coombe@pemedia.co.uk

THE CROWN INN

WEST BAY ROAD, BRIDPORT

Saturday 17th January
SLITHER
from 9.30pm

Sunday 18th January
RICHARD KENNEDY
from 4pm
www.lemonrock.com/crowninn

Tel 01308 422037

The Nag's Head
Silver St, LYME REGIS
Tel 01297 442312

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 24th January
ON THE NASH

Saturday 31st January
GROUVECAT

Saturday 7th February
DELTA TANGO 7

Saturday 14th February
ALAN WEST & STEVE BLACK

www.nagsheadlymeregис.co.uk

BROADCHURCH COMPOSER TO PERFORM AT THE PALACE

ÓLAFUR Arnalds is a BAFTA-winning multi-instrumentalist and producer from Mosfellsbær, Iceland. Ólafur Arnalds mixes strings and piano with loops and edgy beats crossing over from ambient/electronic to pop.

The first half will be a set of the haunting soundtrack to the hit TV show *Broadchurch*, and the second half will be a best of. Ólafur will be introduced by *Broadchurch* writer, and Bridport resident, Chris Chibnall.

Ólafur Arnalds performs at the Electric Palace, Bridport on Monday, February 23rd, with doors opening at 6.30pm. Tickets are £20 plus booking fee in advance, or £22 on the door. For more de-

tails or to book visit the Electric Palace website at www.electricpalace.org.uk, visit www.seetickets.com or call 01308 424901 (Bridport TIC).



Ólafur Arnalds

It's a Miracle!

Victorian Music Hall is revived in the highly entertaining *Dr Livingstone, I Presume?*

BEFORE the January blues set in, Cornwall's Miracle Theatre are here to whisk you off on an epic adventure into unknown territories of entertainment with a show packed full of comedy and melodrama, not to mention some high-kicking can-can!

Dr Livingstone, I Presume? is the tale of the great explorer and his travels to the heart of Africa in search of the source of the river Nile – all told from an unusual, and highly entertaining perspective.

Those familiar with Miracle Theatre may remember their inspired production of *Frankenstein*, which received great acclaim in Dorchester last February as well as their much-celebrated outdoor theatre performances at Maumbury Rings, with *The Tempest* in July last year being a highlight of the summer season.

As part of their winter tour, Miracle is now back with their signatory style as they tell the story of this famous explorer via a series of music hall turns (song and ballet, ventriloquism and stand-up comedy), which is as fraught with danger and catastrophe as any expedition into the heart of Africa. This charming show is a revival of Miracle's 1997 hit, written by Bill Scott and Steve Clarke, and stars Miracle stalwarts Ben Dyson, Ciaran Clark, Holly Cassidy and, making his Miracle debut, Giles King (as previously seen in theatre productions by Black Fish and Kneehigh).

"*Dr Livingstone, I Presume?* proved a huge hit with audiences first time round in 1997 and this refurbished version, with its fantastic cast of comic and musical talent, promises to sparkle with even greater charm!" said Bill Scott, Artistic Director.

Add an exquisite set and a rack of authentic music-



hall style costumes, designed by Alan and Jude Munden, and you have an example why Miracle shows have gained a reputation for being just the ticket for that winter treat, whether you usually love a traditional panto or are looking for an alternative for a giggle-filled night out with family and friends.

Both a hurrah to courage and endurance and a swipe at the 19th century ideals of imperialism, chauvinism and hypocrisy, this curious slice of history is served up as a magnificent mélange of musicality ... and it even comes with a side dish of lion wrestling, BRAVO!

Dr Livingstone, I Presume? is co-promoted by Dorchester Town Council and supported by Battens Charitable Trust. It will be performed at Dorchester Corn Exchange on Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 January. Also showing at Marine Theatre Lyme Regis. To book tickets call Box Office 01305 266926 or visit www.dorchesterarts.org.uk

whisking you off on an epic adventure into unknown territories of entertainment

DR LIVINGSTONE, I PRESUME?

A tale of the great explorer and his travels to the heart of Africa in search of the source of the river Nile

Dorchester ARTS

Tickets £12
£10 (members & concessions)
£30 family ticket
(4 tickets, max. 2 adults)

Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th January
Dorchester Corn Exchange 8pm
01305 266926
www.dorchesterarts.org.uk

Yeovil Town FC inspire 'Giant' new production

SOMERSET-BASED Wassail Theatre Company proudly presents its debut production *The Giants*, a play inspired by Yeovil Town Football Club.

The Giants tells the story of Grovers fan Warren Pritchard, a tyre fitter with green and white aspirations. Following in the footsteps of his idols, Warren is planning on stepping off the terraces to bring a touch of Yeovil glory to his own team of under-12s. Warren and his merry band of school kids have their sights set firmly on the Premier League, but first there's the small matter of conquering the Somerset Schools' Cup.

Directed by the Marine Theatre's Artistic Director Tim Bell, rehearsals for the show incidentally coincide with the forthcoming 3rd round FA Cup tie against Manchester United.

The play is heading to The Marine Theatre in Lyme Regis on Saturday, January 24th; for football fans and theatre lovers alike!

The performance starts at 7.30pm and tickets are £10 or £8, available from 01297 442138 or via www.marinetheatre.com.

What's more two lucky winners are being offered the opportunity to win a performance of the show, to be held in their living room either on Saturday, January 31st or Saturday, February 7th.

To enter the competition simply email wassailtheatre@gmail.com with your name and address with the

answer to this question:

Which current Premier League team did Yeovil famously beat 2-1 in 1949?

Full information on the show can be found at www.wassailtheatre.co.uk.

The show is Supported by Arts Council England, Take Art and South Somerset District Council.



MARINE THEATRE LYME REGIS

See you in the Stage Door Bar!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Saturday 24th January

THE GIANTS

7.30pm

Full Price: £10.00 /

Concessions: £8.00

Age suitability: 10+

A play about achieving goals and striving for your dreams.



ONE OF THE MOST HIGHLY ACCLAIMED FOLK/BLUEGRASS BANDS IN THE UK TODAY



Friday 30th January

SOUTHERN TENANT FOLK UNION

Doors: 7.15pm / Onstage: 8.00pm

Full Price: £13.50

Concessions: £12.50

ALSO APPEARED ON THE ANDREW MARR SHOW AND THE LATE LATE SHOW.

BOX OFFICE: LYME REGIS TIC 01297 442138 OR BUY ONLINE AT WWW.MARINETHEATRE.COM

SUPPORTED BY LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL AND WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Beaminster Brasserie at the BridgeHouse is one of West Dorset's top fine dining restaurants

THE temptation is to overlook restaurants that have been around for a while. The Beaminster Brasserie at the BridgeHouse Hotel could easily fall in to that category. For more than 20 years it has been one of West Dorset's top fine dining restaurants at the heart of the town. Yet it remains one of the most popular foodie destinations around.

Moving with the times has seen the restaurant adopt a more relaxed, brasserie style without losing a very special magic, which the hotel seems to possess.

Rather than resting on its laurels, this Beaminster landmark has continued to improve and re-invent itself and in return has become multi-award winning – a consistent AA two rosette rating and in the past year accolades from Dorset Tourism, The Michelin Restaurant Guide, The Good Hotel Guide as well as a Taste of the West Gold award. And as I found out, it is surely deserving of all their accolades.

So it was about time to experience the Beaminster Brasserie's fine dining experience and I invited my partner and a friend with me, one of which, who won't admit it, but is very fussy and hard to please, and the other was no stranger to fine dining.

We were greeted with a warm welcome and a smile and led to the bar and lounge where drinks arrived almost instantaneously and we looked at the menu, which featured dishes to satisfy the highest food connoisseurs but at the same time will please diners with a particular palate (so definitely something for the fussy eater I brought along!)

I am someone who will chose the same type of meal when eating out – normally a pasta dish, even though I believe you should order something you can't make at home – so I decided to order the seared hake fillet with a chorizo paella, tiger prawns, Fowey mussels and a lobster bisque.

My partner and friend both opted for the pie of the day, which was creamy chicken and ham, served with dauphinoise potatoes and long stem broccoli something I knew would suit both of them.

After ordering we relaxed in the bar and lounge area.

It is so comfortable and relaxing, with a fire and candles burning to one side, that when the waitress arrives to take you to your table you are almost reluctant but at the same time eager to try their award winning food.

'Wow' was my first impression of the candle lit restaurant, as you walk in you are drawn to the back wall which is taken up by different coloured bottles, illuminated by the lights which had been perfectly dimmed – not too much that you have to squint but not too little that it could be the middle of the day.

The restaurant is beautifully and tastefully decorated with a neutral colour scheme that makes dinners feel warm and comfortable and the tables were expertly laid up.

It was only a short wait for food and when it came it was beautifully presented (unfortunately I was so excited to start that I had to reconstruct the dish to take a picture) and the consensus of the table was that all meals were absolutely delicious.

I shared mine as I didn't want the other two to miss out on how perfectly the hake was cooked and the variety of flavours bursting from the paella – which we discussed at length – but they ate theirs before I

managed a taste but from their comments the pastry was excellent and overall it was fantastic.

And staff are incredibly helpful and friendly without being over attentive, leaving you to enjoy your meal but always on hand to replace drinks.

I felt I had to try a dessert, sous chef Geraldine Gay's specialty as she won an award earlier this year for her pistachio cake, poached pear, blackberry ice cream and ginger beer gel, it was rude not to!

My partner chose the sticky toffee pudding, blackberry crumble, ice cream, rice pudding and berry jam – yes, all in one pudding! – and myself and our friend went for the BridgeHouse crème brûlée with shortbread biscuits.

It didn't disappoint and rounded off a fantastic meal.

Owners Mark and Joanna Donovan have not only built up a successful restaurant that serves some of the best food around, they have also achieved a superb reputation for their hotel rooms.

The hotel can sleep 30 people with all rooms decorated in keeping with the hotel's rich heritage from Medieval to Georgian but finished off with modern touches.

I regret leaving it so long to try one of Beaminster's best restaurants. If you haven't already tried it, I encourage you to make the visit especially as they are offering a great winter dining offer with 10 per cent off lunch and dinner until February 12th. (You'll need to quote 'Bridge1' when booking your table to qualify for the discount).

They are also taking bookings for Valentine's Day so to find out what will be on offer, call the BridgeHouse on 01308 862200.

The BridgeHouse Hotel and Brasserie

3 Prout Bridge, Beaminster, Dorset, DT8 3AY.
www.bridge-house.co.uk 01308 862200.

Dining Out review by Lottie Welch



SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY SUNDAY CARVERY

1 course £9.75 / 2 courses £12.75

3 courses £15.75

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Telephone 01297 442299

23 Marine Parade, The Cobb, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3JF

Dining out in West Dorset:

BEAMINSTER

Brasserie

at the BridgeHouse

Starters

*Fresh Flavoured Bread £1.00
Marinated Olives £3.50

Homemade Soup of the Day (V)(G) £6.50
Ham Hock, Smoked Chicken & Caper Terrine £8.50

Christmas chutney, garlic toast

Capricorn Goats Cheese mousse (V) £8.95

Pickled beetroot, roasted walnuts, chilli dressing, pea shoots

Roast Breast of Partridge £9.50

Confit leg, pearl barley, duxelle wild mushroom, pickled vegetables

Witchampton Snails (Benedict/Florentine/Royale) £9.25

Poached hens egg, toasted muffin & hollandaise sauce

Peppered Fillet of Beef Carpaccio £9.50

Parmesan, spring onions, vine tomato, roquette, lime juice, truffle oil, horseradish fraiche

***Roast Monkfish Tail £10.50**

Squid ink fennel risotto, vanilla & rosemary butter sauce

***Seared Cornish Scallops £10.95**

Beetroot Bloody Mary, confit tomato, celery salt & butter

Main Courses

Confit Pork Belly & Braised Cheek £18.50

Creamed mashed potato, black cabbage, crispy crackling, apple & black pudding beignet with a parsnip puree

Vegetable Thali: Chick Pea Jalfrezi, Chartha & Partha, Lentil Dahl (V) £17.50

Peshwari rice, riata, mango chutney, papadum

Seared Hake Fillet £19.50

Chorizo paella, tiger prawns, squid, Fowey mussels, lobster bisque

Trio of Local Pheasant £18.50

Breast, boudin, croquette, curly kale, roasted chantenay, puree & game jus

Wild Mushroom & Sage Tortellini's (V) £16.50

Spinach puree, roasted squash, pine nuts, artichoke & parmesan crisps

Locally Caught Beer Battered Fish £14.50

Pea puree, triple cooked chips, homemade tartar crème fraiche

***John Dory Fillet £20.50**

Samphire, nage of new potatoes, vine tomatoes, olive & fresh herbs

Bridgehouse Short Crust Pie £15.00

Dauphinoise, sautéed tenderstem broccoli

28 Day Matured West Country Beef, Crispy Shallot Rings, Watercress, Frites (G*)

Bavette £16.50 / Sirloin £22.50

Add Sauces £1.50 * Blue Vinney Cheese / Béarnaise / Diane / Green Peppercorn £1.50

* A small supplement will be applicable for Dinner, Bed & Breakfast guests.
A discretionary 10% service charge is added to all bills.



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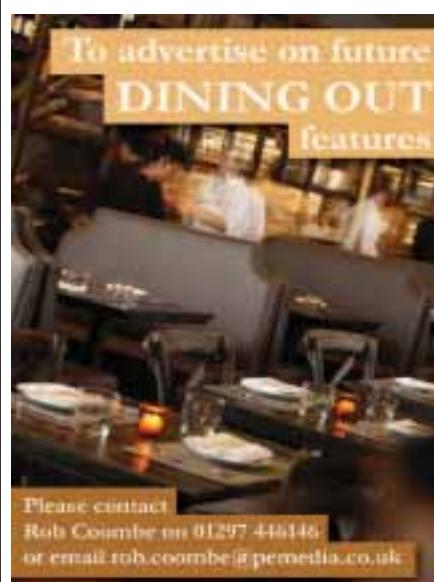
Until February 12th 2015

Quote 'Bridge1' when booking your table to qualify for the discount.

Book now on 01308 862200



3 Prout Bridge, Beaminster DT8 3AY
enquiries@bridge-house.co.uk
www.bridge-house.co.uk
01308 862200



Please contact
Rob Coombes on 01297 446146
or email rob.coombes@pemedia.co.uk



Symondsbury Kitchen



Open 7 days a week 9am - 4pm and Friday evenings from the 16th January

The perfect place to chill out after a walk through the stunning countryside for Breakfast, Lunch and Afternoon Teas. Available for private hire, open on selected evenings throughout the year.

Tel: 01308 538309

Manor Yard, Mill Lane, Symondsbury, Dorset DT6 6HG
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Book Now 01308 422 878



34 East St. Bridport, DT6 3LF
inf@thebullhotel.co.uk
01308 422 878



View 2 Diary Dates

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14TH

DORCHESTER: Elvis Day at Age UK Dorchester. Exhibition of memorabilia on show including records, movie posters, books and a slideshow of photos from Tupelo, Memphis and Nashville. Lots of music and a few surprises. Exhibition from 10am-11.30am. Coffee and cookies will be included in the entrance fee of £1.50. In the afternoon at the Evergreen Cinema there will be a special showing of 'Blue Hawaii'. The cinema lights will dim at 1.45pm, tea and biscuits will be served during the screen, for just £1.50, and ice creams also available. For more details call 01305 269444.

THURSDAY JANUARY 15TH

EYPE: Aquafit classes at Highlands End, Eype. 10.30am. Get fit and have fun in the water. Just come along or phone Penny Yarnold on 0797 087 9047 for more details.

DORCHESTER: A talk will be given for the South Dorset R.S.P.B. Group at St George's Church Hall, Fordington, Dorchester at 7.45pm. The talk will be given by Martin Cade, Portland Bird Observatory Manager. Martin talks about the work of the Bird Observatory on the unique strange and compelling island of Portland. Admission £3 members, Visitors £3.50 to include coffee and biscuits.

THURSDAY JANUARY 15TH - SATURDAY 17TH
BOTHENHAMPTON: Panto: 'Rumpelstiltskin' by the Bothenhampton Village Players, at the village hall. Doors 7pm for 7.30pm performance each night. Tickets cost £7.00 adults, £3.50 children available from Pennie 458006 or Sandra 422205. Includes a light supper and glass of wine or juice.

FRIDAY JANUARY 16TH

BROADMAYNE: Market 2-3.30pm, at St Martin's Community Hall (Next to the Church). Cakes, Preserves, Raffle, Craft, Plants, , Bric-a-brac, books, Jigsaws, Cards, Local Pork, Sausages and Eggs, Local Watercress, Plants from a local Nursery and a chance to sit and chat with a cup of tea or coffee. All proceeds to St Martin's Community Hall. For further information please contact Eleanor Piper 01305 853765.

LYME REGIS: Lyme Bay Photographic Club meeting. Nigel Clarke, Luftwaffe Aerial Photography of the 2nd World War, at Woodmead Halls from 7.30pm. **CHARMOUTH:** Bingo at St Andrew's Hall, Lower Sea Lane. Doors 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. Raffle, draw board and licensed bar.

SATURDAY JANUARY 17TH

UPLYME: Jumble Sale at Uplyme Village Hall, 2pm. In aid of Royal British Legion Women's Section. For more details call 01297 442435.

SATURDAY JANUARY 17TH - SUNDAY 18TH
MONKTON WYLD: Wyld Walking Weekend for Families at Monkton Wyld Court. Designed with children in mind, these whatever-the-weather walks will be leisurely paced, with time for puddles, stick collecting and wintery activities included. Price: Adults £50 (hostel accommodation), £65 (B&B), Children half price. Includes all meals, accommodation in family rooms and guided walks. For booking or information call: 01297 560 342 or email: info@monktonwyldcourt.org

MONDAY JANUARY 19TH

EYPE: Aquafit classes at Highlands End, Eype. 10.30am. Get fit and have fun in the water. Just come along or phone Penny Yarnold on 0797 087 9047 for more details.

TUESDAY JANUARY 20TH

LYME REGIS: Lyme Regis Art Society. Meeting 2pm-4pm at Woodmead Halls, Lyme Regis. A novel way to use your credit cards! Graham Watson is going to show us all a way of using them in creating a painting. All are welcome. Non-members admittance is £5. Contact Sheila on 01297 445464 for further information.

CROSSWAYS: 'Tales from the Dorset Archives' illustrated talk by Maria Gayton at Crossways Local History Group at 7.30pm at the Library in Old Farm Way. £3 or £2 for members of the Friends of Crossways Library.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21ST

EYPE: West Dorset Decorative and Fine Arts Society meeting. 'The Art and Meaning of Maps' lecturer: Prof. Jeremy Black. At Highlands End Leisure Centre, 2.30pm. For more details call 01297 443615.

THURSDAY JANUARY 22ND

BEAMINSTER: Dr Lucy Goodison will give an illustrated talk, entitled 'Sexuality and the goddess' to the One World Forum in the Strode Room, (next to St Mary's Church) at 7.30pm. Visitor's entry remains at £4 which includes tea/coffee/biscuit.

EYPE: Aquafit classes at Highlands End, Eype. 10.30am. Get fit and have fun in the water. Just come along or phone Penny Yarnold on 0797 087 9047 for more details.

Now Exhibiting

View 2 talks with curator David Brooke ahead of the 'Theatre of the Soul' exhibition at Bridport Arts Centre

What are the main themes of this exhibition at Bridport Arts Centre?

The Theatre of the Soul is an exhibition of imaginative, visionary and surreal art by 11 West Country based artists, art of the unusual would describe the show pretty well. The title of the exhibition is a quotation from the visionary artist Cecil Collins which seemed to sum up the type of work I wanted to show in the exhibition.

How did the exhibition come about, did you approach the artists or vice versa?

The artists in this show are people whose work has really caught my eye as being the kind of art I am inspired by. I have seen and admired their work either in exhibitions or open studio events and decided to invite them to take part in this exhibition. This type of imaginative art doesn't often get shown together as a group show and I felt it was something I would like to arrange myself, so I approached Bridport Arts Centre who were willing to host the exhibition.

Have you always had an interest in visual arts?

Yes, I've been producing paintings and drawings ever since I was a child.

Who or what are you inspired and influenced by?

I find many things inspiring and lots of artists have influenced my work. I have a great liking and interest in Medieval Book Illuminations and Romanesque Sculpture. Mythology has also been a great influence in my painting.

Do you have an artist you particularly admire dead or alive?

Following on from the last question, many artists

have influenced me, some better known than others, they include Michael Ayrton, Henri Fuseli, William Blake, Max Ernst, George Tooker and Betty Swanwick.

What challenges do you encounter when organizing an exhibition like this?

Timing and communication are certainly very important. Making sure all the different artists know when and what is required of them. Choosing the artists whose work will make a cohesive whole as an exhibition is the enjoyable part.

Is there something you are currently working on, or are excited about starting that you can tell us about?

I'm always working on new paintings, last year I started a series of imaginative pieces inspired by the Tors of Dartmoor. Seeing figures and faces in the rock formations, changing them into images of sleeping giants, and creating paintings of Tors which don't exist but should.

What is the best piece of advice you've been given?

I'm not sure about advice, but one of the things which made want to be an artist was being lent a book of the Drawings and Sculptures of Michael Ayrton whilst I was at school. The book was lent to me by my Art Teacher, Colin Browning.

What advice would you give to others wanting to be artists?

Follow want you really want to do and don't be led by fashion or what other people tell you that you should be doing.

Is being an artist all its cracked up to be?

There is a lot of work in being an artist, it takes a lot of time, practice and dedication to produce a painting. There is also a lot each artist has to do promoting and exhibiting their work. But I enjoy creating images and I certainly wouldn't want to be doing anything else.

If you could live in any period of history anywhere in the world, what and where would it be?

I'm not sure I would want to live in any time other than the present, realistically the past was a very hard place to live. But if I had a time machine and could just visit and return again I would like to see what the ruined medieval castles and abbeys looked like in their heyday. I would then have to return home to the present for tea and crumpets.

■ Theatre of the Soul, Curated by David Brooke
runs from Saturday, January 17th to Saturday, February 28th, 10am- 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Allsorts Gallery, Bridport Arts Centre. www.bridport-arts.com For more Information

Car boot sale

Visit
DORCHESTER MARKET
every Wednesday 8am-2pm
and
DORCHESTER CAR BOOT
every Sunday 7am-1pm
at Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester DT1
1QS, Hotline Chris on 07889 616166

Fitness, health and wellbeing



MONDAY

3.45-4.30pm 11-16YR OLDS TRAMPOLINING COURSE

4.30-5.15pm 4-11YR OLDS TRAMPOLINING COURSE

4.45-6.00pm SILKS AERIAL COURSE 11-16YR OLDS

5.15-6.15pm PILATES

6.00-7.15pm SILKS AERIAL COURSE ADULTS (16+)

6.30-7.30pm CIRCUITS

7.45-8.30pm GROUP STUDIO CYCLING

TUESDAY

6.30-7.30pm ZUMBA

WEDNESDAY

4.00-6.00pm GYMNASTICS

6.00-6.45pm GROUP STUDIO CYCLING

6.00-7.00pm BRIT RUNNING CLUB

7.00-8.00pm BACK 2 NETBALL CLUB

8.00-9.30pm VOLLEYBALL

THURSDAY

6.30-7.30pm KETTLERCISE

FRIDAY

6.00-7.00pm SILKS MIXED CLASS

Many more new classes to come - watch this space!

For further information on classes and courses please call Richard on 07792 791038 or 01308 861911

Social club

BRADPOLE

SOCIAL CLUB

Saturday 14th February

BINGO

Eyes down 8pm.

Great prizes to be won

Members and guests welcome

View 2 Diary Dates

BRIDPORT: Talk: 'T.S. Eliot Life and Work' by Graham Fawcett at Sladers Yard, 6.30pm. Tickets £10 or £15 with support. Call 01308 459511 for more details or to book.

SATURDAY JANUARY 24TH

WEYMOUTH: Friends of Weymouth Library present 'Smuggling Tales from Dorset & Hampshire' a talk by ex-Yvette Bonny Sartin. At the library, from 10.30am. £1.50 members, £2.50 non-members. Includes refreshments.

BRIDPORT: Bring and Buy Coffee Morning, Tombola, Raffles etc at St Mary's Church House, South Street, 10.30am-12.30pm. All proceeds from this coffee morning will go to the National Osteoporosis Society. A chance to sit and chat with a cup of tea or coffee.

BOTHENHAMPTON: Film: 'The Hundred Foot Journey' at the village hall. Doors 7pm, film 7.30pm. Tickets available on the door cost £4 for members of film club £5 for everybody else. For more details call 01308 423071

SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH

WHITCHURCH CANICORUM: 15th Annual Farmhouse Breakfast at Whitchurch Canicorum Village Hall from 9am - 2pm. In aid of hall funds with donation to Joseph Weld hospice. Further details available from Sue 01297 489375

MONDAY JANUARY 26TH

BURTON BRADSTOCK: Biocanza at Othona. Express, Connect, Relax! Dance like no one's watching, no steps to learn, no partner needed, uplifting world music and holistic health benefits. For all ages from 19 to 90. £7 each (concs available - just ask). 7.15pm for 7.30pm at Othona Community, Coast Road, DT6 4RN. For more details call 01308 897 130 or visit biocanza-bridport.co.uk

TUESDAY JANUARY 27TH

LYME REGIS: Lyme Regis Art Society. Workshop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Lyme Regis Football Club, Charmouth Road, Lyme Regis. A follow up to Jake Winkle's demonstration on painting wildlife in watercolour. Free on site parking. All are welcome. Please contact Sue Wells on 01297 444289 to register and for more information including suggested list of materials.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28TH

UPLYME: Uplyme & Lyme Regis Horticultural Society meeting. Alice Holden runs a small team growing organic food on a two acre site in Dagenham, east of London, and will be telling us how it was set up on a derelict industrial site and now runs successfully. The talk title is "Grown in Dagenham". 7.30pm at Uplyme Village Hall.

FRIDAY JANUARY 30TH

LYME REGIS: Lyme Bay Photographic Club meeting at Woodmead Halls. Seascape, Open PDI, and Print competitions. 7.30pm-10pm. For more details call 01297 444733

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1ST

DORCHESTER: Weldmar Hospicecare Trust Snowdrop Memorial Services of Remembrance at The Borough Gardens at 3pm.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 2ND

EYPE, BRIDPORT: A new class for parents and babies/toddlers at Highlands End swimming pool, 11.30-12 noon. This new 6 week course will help to promote bonding between parent and child, boost water confidence and help to develop co-ordination, balance and strength in a fun class. Details from 07970 879047 or 01308 426945.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3RD

DORCHESTER: Le Cercle Francais de Dorchester, aka the Dorchester French Circle, invites you to the next meeting of their 2015 season. This is to show the film "I've loved you so long" in French with English subtitles and starring Kristin Scott Thomas, at 7.30 for 8pm at Cafe/Bar Jagos, 8 High West Street, opposite the church next to the Dorchester Museum. Please feel free to join us, whatever your level of spoken French. For further information and to see our full programme please visit the website www.dorchesterfrenchcircle.org.uk or phone Robin Howes on 01305 854025

LYME REGIS: Lyme Regis Art Society. Meeting 2-4pm at Woodmead Halls. Maria Barbashina will demonstrate drawing a Portrait using Charcoal. All are welcome. Non-members admittance is £5. Contact Sheila on 01297 445464 for further information.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5TH

BRIDPORT: Weldmar Hospicecare Trust Snowdrop Memorial Services of Remembrance at Bridport United Church at 11.30am.

BRIDPORT: Electronic Organ Concert by David Ingleby at the United Church Hall, East Street. Admission £8, members £7, visitors welcome. Concert starts at 7.30pm. For more details call 01460 73500.

This week's new cinema



American Sniper

TESTAMENT OF YOUTH 12A

BRITISH drama based on the First World War memoir of the same name, written by Vera Brittain.

Stars Alicia Vikander as Vera Brittain, Kit Harington, Dominic West and Hayley Atwell.

AMERICAN SNIPER 15

NAVY SEAL sniper Chris Kyle's pinpoint accuracy saves countless lives on the battlefield and turns him into a legend. Back home to his wife and kids after four tours of duty, however, Chris finds that it is the war he can't leave behind.

Stars Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller and Kyle Gallner.

WILD 15

A CHRONICLE of one woman's 1,100-mile solo hike undertaken as a way to recover from a recent catastrophe.

Stars Reese Witherspoon, Laura Dern and Gaby Hoffmann.

WHIPLASH 15

A PROMISING young drummer enrolls at a cut-throat music conservatory where his dreams of greatness are mentored by an instructor who will stop at nothing to realize a student's potential.

Stars Miles Teller, J.K. Simmons and Melissa Benoist.

Cinema Listings

Friday, Jan 16th - Thurs, Jan 22nd

ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

LYME REGIS REGENT

Tel: 0871 230 3200
www.scottcinemas.co.uk

The Theory of Everything 12A

Fri, Sun-Tue: 19.30

Sat, Wed: 16.25, 19.30

Thu: 15.30

Paddington PG

Sat: 14.00, Sun: 14.50

National Theatre Live: Treasure Island 12A

Thu: 18.45

WEYMOUTH CINEWORLD

Tel: 0871 200 2000 • www.cineworld.co.uk

Foxcatcher 15

Fri, Wed, Thu: 14.10, 20.15

Sat & Sun: 17.20, 20.15

Mon, Tue: 17.20

Taken 3 12A

Fri: 13.45, 16.15, 18.45, 21.15

Sat: 11.15, 13.45, 16.15, 18.45,

21.15

Sun-Thu: 13.15, 15.45, 18.15, 20.45

Into The Woods PG

Daily: 14.25, 17.10, 19.55

plus Sat & Sun: 11.35am

The Theory of Everything 12A

Fri, Mon-Wed: 14.15, 17.00, 19.45

Sat & Sun: 11.25, 14.15, 17.00,

19.45

Thu: 13.30, 16.15, 19.25

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 12A

Fri-Wed: 13.10, 16.20, 19.25

Thu: 13.10, 16.20

Paddington PG

Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.00, 16.20

Sat: 11.55, 16.20

Sun: 10.00, 11.55, 16.20

Birdman 15

Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.05

The Boxtrolls PG

Sat & Sun: 10.50am

BRIDPORT ARTS CENTRE

Tel: 01308 424204
www.bridport-arts.com

Notorious Mr Bout 12A

Sun: 15.00
Boyhood 15 Thur: 19.30

DORCHESTER ODEON

Tel: 0871 22 44 007

www.odeon.co.uk

DORCHESTER PLAZA

Tel: 01305 262488

www.plazadorchester.com

Contact cinemas or visit the websites for up-to-date listings

Dolphin Tale 2 U

Sat & Sun: 10.30am

The House of Magic U

Sat & Sun: 10.00am

Kajaki 15

Sun: 14.10, Tue: 20.10

The Woman in Black: Angel of Death 15

Fri-Tue: 14.00, 18.35, 20.55

Wed & Thu: 14.00

Exodus: Gods and Kings 12A

Fri, Wed, Thu: 17.05

Sat-Tue: 14.10

Night At The Museum: Secret of the Tomb PG

Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.10

Sat & Sun: 11.45am

Annie PG

Sat & Sun: 12.15

Wild 15

Daily: 14.55, 17.30, 20.05

plus Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.20

American Sniper 15

Daily: 14.45, 17.40, 20.35

plus Sat & Sun: 11.55am

Whiplash 15

Daily: 13.00, 15.30, 18.00, 20.25

Tales for a winter's evening

WITTY and engaging storyteller Jane Flood brings her new collection of old tales to the next Story Café at Bridport Arts Centre on Friday, January 23rd. In 'A flick of the wrist and a slip of the tongue' you will meet a carefree gypsy, a dead bride and a woman silenced by a curse. There are tales of women who skip, trip and nip through the stories, leaving confusion, mayhem, puzzled mothers and fathers ... and a few happily ever afters.

"Jane has the ability to transport the audience to the faraway land of myths and legends from our native past ... Her storytelling is magical ... truly inspired and inspiring" (Merlin Theatre, Frome).

Doors open at 7pm and the storytelling begins at 7.30pm. The evening is suitable for adults and older children. Tickets are £7 / £6 members / £5 concessions available from Bridport Arts Centre box office 01308 424204 and via the website www.bridport-arts.com



Jane Flood

HARDY DRESS ON DISPLAY AT DORSET COUNTY MUSEUM

DORSET County Museum's textile archive includes a significant collection of clothing originally owned by Thomas Hardy's family. Among the pieces is a stunning red bustle dress worn by his sister Katherine. Until now most of the collection has remained in storage as it requires specialist mounting and display. But following a generous grant from the Daphne Bullard Trust the dress has now been specially prepared and is on display in the Museum's Writers Gallery.

The bustle dress has been mounted on a bespoke mannequin and will bring a new perspective to the Thomas Hardy displays in the Museum. Donated in 1984, the dress consists of a bodice and skirt in red grosgrain silk. It was made in about 1889 by the linen drapers, Genge, Dixon and Jameson in Dorchester.

Displaying the dress both safely and sympathetically was a complicated project. A particular consideration was Kate Hardy's large bust. She also had a very small waist and narrow shoulders so a special museum grade mannequin was purchased and adapted with additional padding in the relevant areas. A petticoat with several layers of net was added underneath for support and padded arms allow the sleeves to hold their natural shape. Extra pads were finally attached around the hips to help support the weight of the skirt and prevent stress on the original fastenings.

Dorset County Museum is open 10am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday. For further information visit www.dorsetcountymuseum.org.

A merry, funky treasure trove of shows at The Gateway

THE Gateway in Seaton will stream the Met Opera's live New York performance of Lehar's *The Merry Widow* on Saturday, January 17th.

The great Renee Fleming stars in award-winning Broadway director Susan Stroman's lavish new staging of Lehar's comic operetta.

Recently widowed Hanna (Renee Fleming) has inherited a huge fortune. Scheming Baron Zeta (Thomas Allen) is determined that her money should remain in the country. But former lover Danilo (Nathan Gunn) now refuses to court her because of her wealth.

Lehar's effervescent operetta has been an audience favourite ever since its 1905 premiere, and this exquisite new staging in an art-nouveau setting marks the Met debut of Broadway director and choreographer Susan Stroman. Her Tony Award-winning credits include the musicals 'Crazy For You', 'Contact', and 'The Producers'.

Leading a starry cast conducted by Andrew Davis, Renee Fleming adds another role to her Met repertory of 22 characters as the beguiling femme fatale.

Broadway soprano Kelli O'Hara makes her Met debut as the Baron's wife.

The operetta is performed in English in a new translation by Jeremy Sams.

Doors open at 5.30pm on Saturday, January 17th, with the performance beginning at 5.55pm. The show is approximately three hours long. Tickets are £15

advance or £17.50 on the door from the Box Office on 01297 625699, or from the website ticket shop www.seatongateway.co.uk. A licensed bar and refreshments are available.

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'THE nation's funkiest ten piece band'return to The Gateway on Saturday, January 24th!

**Joey the Lips** gigs are performed as a show, rather than solely a rendition of the music.

It's now a huge 20 years on the road during which the band has played over 1000 gigs throughout the UK and Europe across a huge variety of venues.

From TV chat shows to headlining to an audience of 10,000 at music festivals. From being booked to supporting Will Young, Bob Geldof & The Boomtown Rats, Toyah, Heaven 17, The Real Thing and Edwin Starr, to performing at the British Formula 1 Grand Prix at Silverstone in 2011 and at celebrity weddings, most recently for Eamonn Holmes and Ruth Langsford.

For more details on the band check out their website at www.joeythelips.co.uk

Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12 in advance and £15 on the door from the website ticket shop www.seatongateway.co.uk or from The Gateway Box Office on 01297 625699.

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WHEN a frightfully weathered looking sailor arrives at the inn, with a giant sea-

chest in tow, Jim the inn-keeper invites him inside. It soon becomes clear to Jim and his granddaughter, that the old sea-dog is harbouring many a dark secret, and so begins a chain of events that will change their lives forever.

Robert Louis Stevenson's classic, coming-of-age children's story *Treasure Island* is reinvigorated with Bryony Lavery's thrilling new stage adaption, which takes you on a journey across the high seas as the pirate's secrets are revealed.

Robert Louis Stevenson's story of murder, money and mutiny is brought to life in a thrilling new stage adaption by Bryony Lavery, broadcast live from the National Theatre.

It's a dark, stormy night. The stars are out. Jim, the inn-keeper's granddaughter, opens the door to a terrifying

stranger. At the old sailor's feet sits a huge sea-chest, full of secrets. Jim invites him in and her dangerous voyage begins.

The visual impact from the National Theatre stage from costumes to the stage sets are absolutely stunning, worth the ticket price alone to witness this.

There will be two screenings of the National Theatre's performance on Wednesday, January 28th, with doors open at 1pm for a 1.30pm show, and 6.30pm for a 7pm show.

Tickets are £12 in advance, £15 on the door, or £10 for under 16s, available online from website ticket shop or The Gateway Box Office 01297 625699.

The performance is approximately three hours long. A licensed bar and refreshments are available.

Opera

THE MERRY WIDOW

Saturday 17th January

Doors open 5.30pm

Performance 5.55pm

Tickets:

£15 in advance

£17.50 on the door

**Live music**

JOEY THE LIPS

Saturday 24th January

Doors open 7.30pm

Tickets:

£12 in advance

£15 on the door

**National Theatre**

TREASURE ISLAND

Wed 28th January

Doors open 6.30pm

Performance 7pm

~~~

Tues 17th February

Doors open 1pm

Performance 1.30pm

Tickets:

£12.50 in advance

£15 on the door

£10 Children under 16



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Cleansing Operative

Full-time, 37 hours per week including weekends, with seasonal variations
Salary: SCP 12-14 (£15,523 - £16,231)

Lyme Regis Town Council is looking for a Cleansing Operative to work as part of its busy external works' team.

The role will involve working five days out of seven per week, to include weekends and with seasonal variations. The role involves keeping the council's parks, open spaces and other areas clean and clear of litter, and having direct contact with the public.

The successful applicant should ideally have reasonable physical fitness, practical common sense, the willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions, and good communication skills.

For further information and an application pack, contact: Elliott Herbert, Operations Manager, Lyme Regis Town Council, Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3BS | Tel: 01297 445175, email: works@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk

Download a pack from www.lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk

Closing date for applications is midday on 30 January 2015
Interviews will be held on 10 February 2015

You can make a difference...

Dorset POPP works with Older People to build supportive communities that promote local activities and services to provide the opportunity for people to 'remain living in their own homes for as long as they wish' We have vacancies for the following roles:

Wayfinder - Wayfinders work locally to provide "information and signposting" relating to any service, issue or concern that affects Older People.

As a Wayfinder you will be paid £3,042 per year for 9 hours pw

We have Wayfinder vacancies in the following areas:

Beaminster, Cerne Abbas, Marnhull, Sherborne, West Parley and Wool

Champion - Champions work locally to "challenge & change" the way that services are provided for Older People. Champions work with older people, providers, community groups & others to identify the gaps, build opportunities and develop the way services are delivered.

As a champion you will be paid £2,366 per year for 7 hours pw

We have Champion vacancies in the following areas:

Weymouth & Portland, Yetminster, Marnhull, The Tarrants, Puddletown and Hurn

We actively encourage applicants aged 50 or over & people with disabilities to apply
Closing date for completed application forms to be received is at 12 noon on Friday 30th January 2015

To request an application pack call

0300 111 3303

email: [h�upport@helpandcare.org.uk](mailto:hrsupport@helpandcare.org.uk)
or visit www.helpandcare.org.uk

To find out more about POPP visit
www.dorsetforyou.com



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For more information please call us on 01297 443513
Charmouth Road, Lyme Regis, DT7 3HH
www.fairfieldhouse.co.uk

We're recruiting

**Bookings administrator -
Part time 22.5 hours per week**

Following the acquisition of Devon & Dorset Cottages by Toad Hall Cottages another part-time booking administrator is required to join the small team in our Lyme Regis office.

Reporting to the office manager you will need:

- Excellent telephone manner and good customer service skills
- Good standard of literacy and numeracy
- A good working knowledge of general office computer software
- Full driving licence preferred

If you would like to be considered for this role please email info@devonanddorsetcottages.co.uk attaching your CV. Closing date 23rd January 2015.

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www.poppies.co.uk

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A Toad Hall COTTAGES COMPANY

We are looking for a friendly and personable individual who knows the local area well. A willingness to take responsibility when necessary and the ability to work on your own from time to time will be important. Experience in the holiday letting sector is not essential as full training will be given. Hours negotiable - 5 mornings per week with some Saturday mornings on a rota basis.

SX ALPHA series 5 piece junior sized kit, bass drum, snare, two rack toms, floor tom, hi hats and crash cymbal, well used but good condition, dark red sparkle colour, has a drum stool that needs repair, this is not a toy this is a real beginner's kit, RRP around £160, sounds great, selling due to upgrade to full size kit, £50. Tel 01297 445877 POP up NERF tent with

gun holes. In excellent condition and a great present for a NERF mad child! £5. Tel 01297 445877 NORTH Face Winter Childs Jacket. North Face Winter Jacket. Re-

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Property View

SITUATED within the picturesque village of Musbury, this delightful character cottage built in 1912, has been renovated to a high standard and now offers excellent family accommodation. The village boasts a wide range of essential amenities all within a short walk.

The accommodation benefits from solid oak floors, double glazed sash windows and gas central heating. Accommodation comprises: entrance hall, lounge with multi fuel burner, kitchen with handmade units, large utility room and cloakroom. On the first floor there are two double bedrooms and spacious well-appointed family bathroom. On the second floor is a third bedroom with en-suite facilities.

Musbury offers a lively community, with a village hall, public house, primary school, playing field, Church, shop with petrol station and garage. On the doorstep there are numerous walks into the countryside including the East Devon Way and scenic Musbury Castle. Nearby the East Devon market town of Axminster famed for its carpet manufacturing and more re-



MUSBURY - £335,000

cently for Hugh Fernley Whittingstall's River Cottage, has a wide variety of local shops and facilities including a weekly market, supermarket and swimming pool. The renowned Colyton Grammar School is situated locally.

The popular coastal towns of Lyme Regis (with its Cobb harbour and cinema) and Seaton, both with their beaches, lie between three and five miles distant and offer a range of leisure activities such as sailing and golf.

The whole West Dorset and East Devon coastline has been designated as

a World Heritage site and is commonly known as the Jurassic coast. Exeter, the county town lies approximately 25 miles away and offers an extensive range of facilities. The property benefits from peaceful surroundings whilst also having easy access to various major road links, including the M5 motorway and A303, a mainline railway service on the London Waterloo line at Axminster and International airports at Exeter and Bristol.

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OFF TO A GREAT START

Judy Fellingham of Fortnam Smith & Banwell in Charmouth hits the ground running in 2015 and looks forward to an active property market throughout the year ahead.

In housing market terms 2015 could be a contradictory year. In some ways the market is looking healthier than it has for years with more first time buyers than at any time since 2007. Early post-New Year signs are of sustained activity. Due to increased sales we now require further properties to replace those sold. These factors are clearly a reflection of increased confidence in the economy and higher employment across the UK.

This is very good news. The only cloud on the horizon might be the general election in May. If we thought the Scottish referendum – which for a time had a negative effect on market activity in England and Wales as well as Scotland – was a difficult one to call, the 2015 general election will surely prove to be impossible to forecast. And it is just this sort of uncertainty that markets don't like. So we may see a slight cooling off in activity levels and transactions the nearer we get to May. But we think that buyers and sellers will want to make a head start on the market and try and make some hard decisions early in the New Year. Certainly these are the clear signs now.

Towards the upper end of the market there will be many with strong and very valid concerns about the introduction of a mansion tax – on top of the added stamp duty for this price sector imposed by the chancellor in his autumn statement. But for some this will be a period of great

opportunity in the property market. Once again, we would urge buyers not to rely on the property portals too heavily. The portals deal in hard data and certainties. Use them as a guide by all means. But the best opportunities often come from uncertainties.

To find out about property off-market or for help in discovering that special place or great deal through hard-won local experience then there is nothing better than a good, reputable and knowledgeable high street estate agent like our firm. Come rain, shine or general election Fortnam Smith & Banwell in Charmouth will be ready with great ideas and sound advice. 01297 560945.



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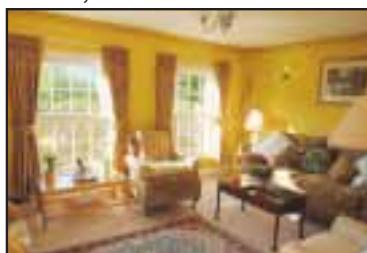
LYME REGIS - £295,000



This detached three bedroom bungalow has a good sized southerly facing rear garden and is located in a popular residential area serviced by the town bus. Awaiting EPC.



LYME REGIS - £299,950



This three bedroom purpose built ground floor apartment with parking and communal gardens is situated on the eastern side of town a short walk from Lyme Regis town centre and beaches. EPC band C.



LYME REGIS - £209,995



This well presented ex local authority property offers light and airy accommodation and is located a short level walk from the town and local primary school. EPC band C.



LYME REGIS - £275,000



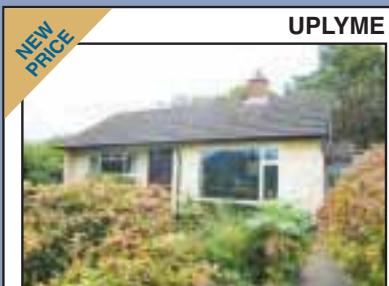
Superbly situated on Marine Parade overlooking the beach and sea is this first floor apartment with panoramic views across Lyme Bay and the west Dorset coastline. EPC band G.



LYME REGIS - £379,950



Situated on the edge of the town adjacent to open fields and accessible to local facilities and schools, Woodroffe Villas constructed approximately 6 years ago, is an attractive detached three bedroom Georgian style house. EPC band C.



UPLYME - £255,000



Located in the popular village of Uplyme this two bedroom detached bungalow with good sized gardens has fine views and scope to improve and update. EPC band F.



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This very well presented three bedroom semi-detached property offers good sized accommodation and has recently been refurbished, located close to the town and schools. EPC band D.



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- Living Room
- Gardens Parking
- EPC D

UPLOADERS £425,000



- Spacious Attached Listed Character Property
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- Dining Room
- Master Bedroom En-Suite
- 2 Further Bedrooms
- Reception Area Utility Room
- Conservatory
- Green House Garden Stores
- 1/2 Acre of Garden

BRIDPORT £170,000



- Stone End Terrace Character Cottage
- 2 BedRooms Shower Room
- Kitchen Living Room
- Front Garden Rear Courtyard
- Gas Central Heating
- EPC D

BRIDPORT £100,000



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- Bedroom Bathroom
- Living Room
- Kitchen
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- Kitchen/Dining Room Lounge
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Axminster £750 pcm

A well presented and spacious three bedroom terraced house situated within walking distance of the town centre. Benefiting from enclosed rear garden and garage. Pets considered. EPC Band D. Available immediately.

Web Ref: ACC070445 Axminster 01297 32879



Raymonds Hill £900 pcm

A well presented three bedroom bungalow situated in the popular Raymond's Hill area, close to Axminster. Offering large conservatory, fitted kitchen with appliances, garage and front and rear gardens. Pets and children considered. EPC Band E. Available immediately.

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Stoke Abbott £625 pcm

Charming two bedroom furnished character cottage with enclosed garden, situated in pretty village close to Beaminster. EPC Band F. Fully Furnished. No pets or children. Available mid February.

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Bridport £650 pcm

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Minterne Magna £950 pcm

A well presented three/four bedroom Lodge house offering spacious accommodation set within the beautiful village of Minterne Magna. Enclosed rear garden and covered parking. Oil central heating. Pets at Landlords discretion. EPC Band F. Available mid February. Long term let preferred.

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The New Mercedes-Benz C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC



▲ The new Mercedes-Benz C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC

THE new AMG sports models are distinguished by convincing product substance. Even at first glance, the characteristic AMG body styling leaves no doubt that this model is part of the Mercedes-AMG model family. Another indication for the new model strategy is found in the form of a special AMG badge on the front wings. From an engineering standpoint the AMG sports models perfectly deliver on the visual promise of a sporty character with a powerful engine, the standard-fit all-wheel drive system with rear-biased torque split, and sophisticated suspension solutions.

In addition to the Mercedes-Benz GLE 450 AMG Coupé, the C 450 AMG Sport

4MATIC represents the second stage of the new model initiative. More emotionally inspiring AMG sports models will follow.

Tobias Moers, Chairman of the Board of Management of Mercedes-AMG GmbH explains: "With the C 450 AMG we present the second sporty and emotionally expressive vehicle in our product line. It combines the power of a strong twin-turbo V6 engine with a high level of emotional expressiveness, and avails itself of the technical DNA of the new C 63. The new sports models represent a convincing proposition for our customers: sports car technology and motor racing fascination become more attainable and in the process appeal

to a broader customer base."

Authentic driving dynamics thanks to hallmark AMG DNA

The new C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC is based on the most powerful production model of the C-Class, the C 400 4MATIC. The engineers have revised many technical features of the new AMG sports model. Their objective: a high level of authentic driving dynamics geared towards the Mercedes-AMG C 63. To this end, a host of suspension components were adopted from the top-of-the-line V8 model. The driver also feels the DNA of the C 63 in the application of the engine and transmission management.

The new 3.0-litre twin-turbo V6 engine is part of the BlueDIRECT engine family from Mercedes-Benz. Technical advances including a modified boost pressure allowed the AMG engineers to increase the engine's power output and torque. With 367 hp and 520 Newton metres the V6 engine sets new standards in its segment – which is evident in the convincing performance:

A sprint time from zero to 62 mph of 4.9 seconds (Estate: 5.0 seconds) underscores the sporty temperament of the C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC. With a combined fuel consumption of 37.1 mpg and CO₂ emissions of 178 grams per kilometre (Estate: 36.6 mpg and 180 g CO₂ per km) the new top-of-the-line V6 model defines an absolute top position in the competitive environment.

Supreme or dynamic: the choice is yours

Thanks to a hefty torque curve the new AMG sports model is agile, direct and dynamic. With the help of various AMG-specific drive programmes the driver is able to tailor the character of the C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC to his or her personal preferences: the modes "Eco", "Comfort", "Sport" and "Sport Plus" as well as "Individual" are available to choose from for this purpose. The drive programmes adjust the suspension, steering and powertrain as desired, and are selected conveniently with the AMG DYNAMIC SELECT switch to the left of the touchpad.

Especially the "Sport Plus" programme delivers impressive hallmark AMG dynam-



▲ The new Mercedes-Benz C 450 AMG Sport 4MATIC



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PETROLS



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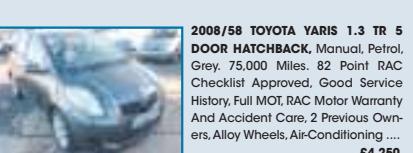
2001/Y FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX 5 DOOR ESTATE, Manual, Petrol, Black, 13 Months Warranty, Full MOT, Some Service History, 2 Previous Owners, Ideal Workhorse, Starts And Runs Perfectly, Radio, Central locking, Electric door mirrors, Electric windows..... £995

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DIESELS



2002/52 VW GOLF 1.9 TDI GT 130 3 DOOR HATCHBACK, Manual, Diesel, Red, 126,000 Miles, 13 Months Warranty, Full MOT, Part Service History, Warranted Mileage, Alloy Wheels, Climate Control, Central Door Locking.... £2,195

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DIESELS



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PETROLS



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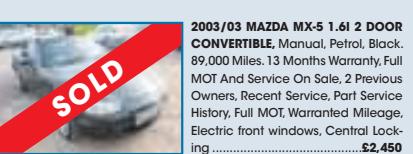
2008/08 FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI TITANIUM 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, Manual, Diesel, Silver, 69,000 Miles, 82 Point RAC Checklist Approved, Full Service History, One Previous Owner, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Good Garage Scheme Approved Workshop, Air conditioning, Sony CD Player..... £5,750

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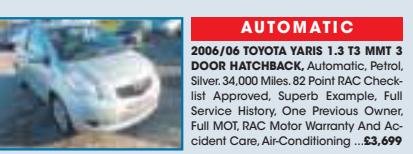
2006/56 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI 115 EDGE 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, Manual, Diesel, Blue, 68,000 Miles. RAC Warranty Included, Full Service History, 2 Previous Owners, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Air conditioning, Park assist system, 16" 5 spoke alloy wheels, Electric front windows..... £3,495

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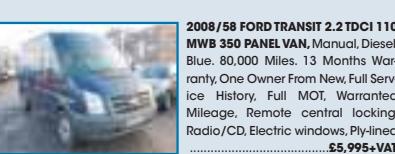
2008/58 TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 TR 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, Manual, Petrol, Grey, 75,000 Miles, 82 Point RAC Checklist Approved, Good Service History, Full MOT, RAC Motor Warranty And Accident Care, Air Conditioning.... £4,250

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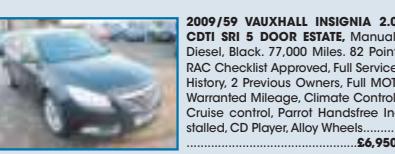
2003/03 MAZDA MX-5 1.6i 2 DOOR CONVERTIBLE, Manual, Petrol, Black, 89,000 Miles, 13 Months Warranty, Full MOT And Service On Sale, 2 Previous Owners, Recent Service, Part Service History, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Electric front windows, Central Locking.... £2,450

PETROLS



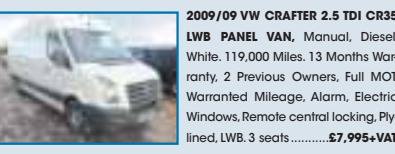
2008/58 FORD TRANSIT 2.2 TDCI 110 MWB 350 PANEL VAN, Manual, Diesel, Blue, 80,000 Miles, 13 Months Warranty, One Owner From New, Full Service History, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Remote central locking, Radio/CD, Electric windows, Ply-lined..... £5,995+VAT

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PETROLS



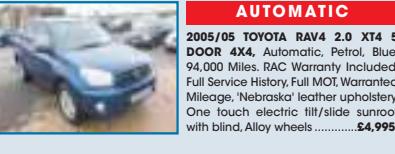
2009/09 VW CRAFTER 2.5 TDI CR35 LWB PANEL VAN, Manual, Diesel, White, 119,000 Miles, 13 Months Warranty, 2 Previous Owners, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Climate Control, Remote central locking, Ply-lined, LWB, 3 seats..... £7,995+VAT

DIESELS



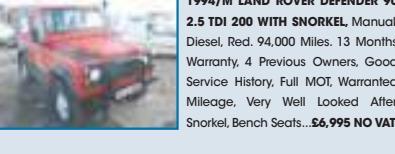
2007/57 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI SE 5 DOOR ESTATE, Manual, Diesel, Black, 82 Point RAC Checklist Approved, Full Service History, Superb Example, One Previous Owner, Full MOT, Warranted Mileage, Workshop, Alloy wheels, CD Player, Cruise control..... £4,950

PETROLS



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FOLLOWING its premiere in the S-Class, Mercedes-Benz is now offering its most advanced hybrid technology yet in the C-Class and, for the first time, also in an Estate model. The dynamism and efficiency of the C 350 PLUG-IN HYBRID make it a convincing proposition in both its Saloon and its Estate guise. With a range of 19 miles in purely electric mode, local emission-free driving is now a reality. Its four-cylinder petrol engine, in conjunction with a powerful electric motor, gives it a total system output of 279 hp and torque of 600 Nm. The new C 350 PLUG-IN HYBRID thus delivers the performance of a sports car and yet offers certified consumption figures of 134.5 mpg both as a Saloon and as an Estate. This corresponds to CO2 emissions of 48 grams (49 grams for the Estate) per kilometre. Both models are also equipped as standard with AIRMATIC air suspension plus a Pre-Entry Climate Control system that can be controlled via the internet, adding up to a truly exceptional level of driving and climate comfort. The C 350 PLUG-IN HYBRID will arrive in the UK from Summer 2016.

Prof Dr Thomas Weber, Member of the Board of Management of Daimler AG and responsible for Group Research and Mercedes-Benz Cars Development: "The PLUG-IN HYBRID is an investment in the future of Mercedes-Benz and we believe it will become established as the successful technology for maximum efficiency coupled with powerful dynamic performance. We will be launching ten new PLUG-IN HYBRID models up to 2017."

Following the C 300 BlueTEC HYBRID, the C 350 PLUG-IN HYBRID is the second hybrid model in the new C-Class and the second Mercedes-Benz model to feature PLUG-IN HYBRID technology. Thanks to the combination of combustion engine and electric drive, hybrid drive systems deliver impressive low consumption, but with high performance. The electric motor is able to replace or support the combustion engine in situations where the combustion engine does not perform quite so well, and makes practical use of energy generated while braking by converting it into electric energy and storing it.

The C 350 PLUG-IN HYBRID uses the currently most advanced form of hybrid technology. Its electrical energy storage unit is a high-voltage lithium-ion battery with a total capacity of 6.2 kWh, which can be charged from an external power source and so makes an effective contribution to the low consumption and emission figures. The battery is water-cooled, weighs around 100 kilograms and is mounted in a sheet steel housing underneath the rear axle in order to maximise crash safety, driving dynamics and boot space.

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Lexus's New High-Performance V8 Saloon



▲ Introducing The GS F

LEXUS has today revealed the new GS F at the Detroit motor show, the latest addition to its stable of F-designated high performance models. True to the principles that produced the LFA supercar and the RC F coupe, the 470bhp V8-powered GS F delivers sports car performance and handling, but in a luxury saloon car package.

Based on the current GS saloon, it retains the four-door format and can comfortably seat five adults, breaking new ground as the largest car yet to bear the Lexus F badge.

Yukihiko Yaguchi, chief engineer, explained: "Our cars with the F designation are meant to generate a very positive feeling when you're behind the steering wheel, and are designed to be fun to drive, no matter who's driving, or where.

"With the GS F we wanted to make a

special car that would not only exceed the expectations of the most discerning enthusiast, but which could also be enjoyed by all drivers. In this spirit, it embraces the virtues of sound, response and power – the cornerstones of the Lexus F brand."

V8 engine and eight-speed transmission

The GS F is powered by Lexus's formidable normally aspirated 5.0-litre V8 engine, here producing 470bhp and peak torque in excess of 530Nm. The unit is mated to a lightning quick eight-speed automatic transmission that offers a manual shift capability and four driver-selectable operating modes: Normal, Eco, Sport S and, designed specifically for race track driving, Sport S+.

With a weight of 1,830kg, the rear-wheel drive saloon promises rapid accel-

eration and a top speed to give some race cars a run for their money. As well as being powerful, the 32-valve DOHC engine is fuel efficient, engineered to operate on the Atkinson cycle in everyday running and to switch seamlessly to the Otto cycle for performance driving and cruising at speed.

Handling honed on the race track

The GS F features structural reinforcements and an exclusive suspension design to capture the potential offered by its high-power engine. The intention has been to achieve sports car-like handling, with extensive circuit testing in Japan and on the famous Nürburgring Nordschleife in Germany. The taut suspension, larger tyres (255/35R19 at the front, 275/35R19 at the rear) and uprated braking system combine to provide exceptional high-speed stability and sports car agility, with near-neutral handling balance through almost every kind of corner.

Lexus's innovative Torque Vectoring Differential, which made its debut in the RC F, features in a comprehensive standard equipment list that will make the GS F's performance stand out in its class.

Styling

The GS F gives the styling of the GS saloon a more powerful, performance-focused dimension, witnessed in the larger, more pronounced spindle grille with its dedicated F-model mesh pattern and the large air vents integrated cleanly into the front bumper section. The elegant-yet-sporty frontal appearance is further emphasised by the slim, angled headlights and signature L-motif daytime running lights.

The car sits noticeably lower and wider than other GS models, giving it a determined look that's amplified by the front air vents and 19-inch alloy wheels. At the rear there is a subtle carbon fibre spoiler and chrome-finished exhaust tailpipes.

The cabin adopts sports-themed features as well, while retaining its overall elegant form-follows-function design. Details include an electronic instrument display that automatically adjusts content and appearance according to the selected drive mode. The custom-designed front and rear seats provide extra lateral support, without sacrificing comfort.

A luxury feel is retained, with high-grade Alcantara on the door trims, centre console and upper instrument panel, an analogue clock and a remote-controlled video monitor. The GS F will be available (according to market) with a 17-speaker

Mark Levinson premium hifi system, while those who prefer to listen to the engine sound can take advantage of the Active Sound Control system when the car is driven in Sport S or Sport S+ mode. The Active Sound Control is like that featured in the RC F, but with additional use of rear seat speakers.

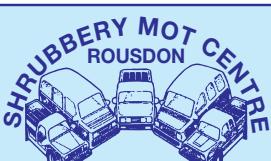
Yoshiharu Nakajima, project chief designer, said: "Fun to drive – it's what characterises all the cars wearing the F badge, and it was our intention that the GS F should be true to that quality.

"The style philosophy is 'form following function'. For example, the GS F's spindle grille was designed to further improve the car's aerodynamics and internal cooling, while the air outlets in the front wings, first seen on the IS F and more recently on the RC F, have been adopted because of their efficiency.



▲ Introducing The GS F

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WITH STUART BROOM

Clubs look to reject "Super League" proposals

It would appear that despite Dorset Cricket Boards new revised proposals for next season having been rejected by a number of clubs, they will need to vote in favour of it to ensure they give themselves the possibility of playing in the top division.

Last season's new format that involved Premier League 1 and 2 teams in play off's to decide champions and relegation was rejected by the club's at the AGM in November in favour of reverting back to the competition's older structure of a straight 10-team league.

However, having taking the clubs remarks and views into consideration, the Dorset Cricket Board, worried about the standard of the grounds and their commitment to meet the Clubmark in association with *Sport England*, have countered with a proposal which will require teams to apply for acceptance into a Premier League.

criteria

Many of the bigger clubs already have - or they will not have problems attaining these standards, but it automatically excludes the majority of the smaller clubs who have no chance of meeting the criteria in the short term.

Originally it was proposed to have been a closed shop with no promotion or relegation, but with many clubs opposing this idea, the rules have been amended.

One club who has voiced their opinion openly is Dorchester. They objected to last year's format with play-off games going on to mid September

on two counts.

Firstly their ground is owned by Dorchester Town Council and is turned over to football at the end of August which would mean they would have no pitch to play their home games, and secondly, like many clubs, their teams include a number of young players who return to university and are therefore unavailable for selection for the later games.

fair values

Dorchester CC Chairman Mark Derrien, who has written an open letter regarding the proposals (*copied below*), says that whilst they comply with all the criteria required to become a Premier League side, the club support fair values for all clubs and are committed to vote against the proposal.

He said: "We find ourselves in a bit of a dilemma because we want to play in the highest league possible, but, at the same time, we disagree with the notion of having a closed shop at the top of the ladder, so that other teams can't progress into that league."

"We have applied to join the league but we have made our comments that it is much more desirable to have relegation and promotion so that all teams can be ambitious."

Derrien believes that some of the criteria such as the size of the boundaries could be amended to allow more clubs to achieve the standard.

"Boundary distances are not such a problem are they?"

"The Colehill boundary was small on one side

and when I was captain at Dorchester I enjoyed the task of setting the field to try and protect it; it was part of the enjoyment."

◆ Dorchester Cricket Club's open letter regarding the proposed invitation only Premier League;

To all involved in Dorset cricket,

DORCHESTER Cricket Club, like a number of our fellow clubs, find ourselves in something of a quandary.

We are an ambitious and progressive club committed to playing at the highest standard available. Dorchester CC have been a Premier League side for much of our 160 year history winning the Dorset Premier League as recently as 2009, and will be stronger in 2015 with several players returning and numerous youngsters ready for first team action.

We pride ourselves on our unrivalled facilities and established youth set up, friendly Sunday XI and a feeder Evening League Club XI.

Hosting Minor Counties Cricket is also back on the agenda having sought direction from Lords ground staff and meeting with Dorchester Town Council to provide a pitch of the required standard.

In the event of an elite division being implemented, Dorchester CC would hope to be one of the clubs from its inception.

Cricket in Dorchester, and the surrounding village teams, has prospered greatly in recent years.

Well-established sides like Bere Regis, Puddletown, Martinstown, Cerne Valley, St Georges and Cattistock have been joined by the fledgling Charl-

ton Down to each have competitive senior teams in the Dorchester catchment area.

Each of these sides have benefited from the open facilities funded by Dorchester CC and our youth set up.

Dorchester CC too have prospered from our neighbouring clubs who have provided players to join us, giving stiff opposition against us in friendlies and proved most worthwhile league opponents without the need to travel too far.

Cricket in our area has never been more competitive. It is a core belief of Dorchester Cricket Club that all clubs from all communities should be able to progress to the top tier of Dorset League Cricket.

Having an elite league which will be difficult to join for progressive clubs will restrict competition and reduce the ambition of lower tier sides.

Derbyshire Cricket has always been run as democracy with major decisions being discussed and voted on in AGMs.

In the event of this new structure being subject to this process Dorchester Cricket Club will be voting to oppose the elite league, in favour of a 10 team 18-fixture season with the fluidity of two teams promoted and two relegated.

All sides should aspire to providing youth teams and make the best of all available facilities.

Dorchester CC would like to apply for a place in the invitation only Premier Division should this structure be ratified, presumably by ballot, at a forthcoming EGM.

Mark Derrien
Chairman, Dorchester Cricket Club

Rugby round-up

Frizzle try earns a bonus point for Villagers

Roll up to learn bowls

DORCHESTER Bowls Club are holding an Open Day at their clubhouse on Armada Way on Saturday, February 14th to encourage people to take up bowls.

The event, which runs between 10am and 4pm, is open to all beginners who would like to take up the sport.

No experience is necessary, and all coaching and equipment will be provided free for the day.

There is free parking on site and refreshments will be available.

Just turn up at the clubhouse (postcode DT1 2TN) or ring 01305 260817 for more information.

Send your sports news, reports, scores and photos to;
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Bournemouth 3rd 12

Puddletown 7

PUDDLETOWN travelled to Bournemouth for their first game after the Christmas break in cold and blustery conditions.

Playing with the wind in the first half, Puddletown failed to make use of the advantage, and the half was dominated by the heavier Bournemouth pack driving the Villagers eight backwards in the scrum and the maul.

However, the defence held firm and neither side could cross the whitewash to register a score.

The second-half started much the same as the first had ended, with Bournemouth applying all the pressure.

Puddletown looked the more likely to score for the rest of the game, but both defences cancelled out any attacking play, and although they lost 12-7, Puddletown secured a losing bonus point.

Dor & Wilts 2S Pd +/- Pts
East Dorset.....14 296 61
Salisbury II13 309 47
Swanage & WI13 257 44
PUDDLETOWN.....13 -18 38
WEY & PORT13 172 31
Bournemouth III13 72 29
DORCH II13 -22 29
BRIDPORT13 -12 28
New Milton II13 -205 19

Progress to Plate Semis

Wey'th & Port'd U13
57 Lytchett 5

By Chris Davis

FOR their first match of the New Year, Weymouth & Portland U13s found themselves in the Dorset & Wilts Plate playing at home against a Lytchett team who they had drawn against home and away the previous season.

Expecting another close encounter, the hosts made a fast start putting the visitors under pressure from the kick off.

A couple of phases later Jaden Claridge broke a tackle and burst through for the line but his offload to Stevie Love was knocked on.

But from the resulting scrum Weymouth pushed Lytchett off their own ball and Claridge again took the initiative to cross the line and score in the corner.

From the restart it was the home side's turn to fail to gather the ball but although the visitors put them under pressure they held firm and thought they had cleared the danger, only for a Lytchett

player to run through the heart of their defence and level the scores at 5-5.

The match then settled down into a pattern with most of the pressure coming from Weymouth, and it was Claridge again who once again managed to dot the ball down in the corner.

Not satisfied with that, Claridge then proceeded to break through the guts of the Lytchett pack a further three times before the break, scoring under the posts each time. These tries were duly converted to leave the home

side comfortably ahead 31-5 at half time.

The second half got off to a flyer also with Claridge again on the scoreboard early on, but then Weymouth took their foot off the pedal a little and it was not for another 10 minutes that Claridge managed his seventh score of the match.

Having switched from full back, where he was playing out of position, to number 8, it was then the turn of Frankie Read to show his pace and power adding a final two tries to finish the

game off at 57-5.

If the scoreboard was dominated by one player it was not a reflection of the effort put in by the whole Weymouth squad.

Missing some players in key positions due to injuries, they had a few players in less familiar positions and the efforts of James Dobson at hooker and Will McLaren at prop demonstrated the willingness of this team to adapt.

Henry Bell also had a good run out at scrum half for the first time this season



◆ MATCH ACTION:
Weymouth & Portland U13s recorded a fine 57-5 win over Lytchett.

having played in a number of positions previously to fit in with the needs of the team.

To take nothing away from their efforts today, it has to be recognised that Lytchett became dispirited in the first half, and some of their tackling was not as committed as it could be.

Weymouth will need to recognise that they will not be able to run through defences in this way very often, but should still take heart and encouragement from a fantastic result.

Lyme Regis Cribbage

Results (Jan 5th): Talbot Arms 1 Lamb Swans 4, Nags Head p Old Inn Kilm p, New Inn Kilm 3 Royal Oak 2, Beer Club p Cloakham Lawns p, Ship Inn 4 Gerrard Arms 1, Stepps 3 Axminster Con Club 2.

Beer League: Talbot Arms 2 Lamb Swans 1, Nags Head p Old Inn Kilmington p, New Inn Kilmington 1 Royal Oak, Charmouth 2, Beer Club p Cloakham Lawns p, Ship Inn 1 Gerrard Arms 2, Stepps 2 Axminster Con Club 1.

Fixtures (January 19th): Cloakham Lawns v Stepps, Gerrard Arms, Colyton v Beer Club, Lamb Swans v Ship Inn LR, Old Inn Kilmington v Talbot Arms, Royal Oak, Charmouth v Nags Head, Axminster Con Club v New Inn Kilmington.

Table - week 16	Pld	Pts
New Inn Kilmington	16	50
Lamb Swans	16	44
Beer Club	14	42
Axminster Cons.	16	41
Ship Inn LR	16	40
Nags Head LR	15	39
Royal Oak	15	39
Talbot Arms	16	36
Gerrard Arms	16	36
Stepps	16	36
Old Inn Kilmington	15	34
Cloakham Lawns	15	28

Beer League	Pld	Pts
Old Inn Kilmington	15	27
Ship Inn LR	16	27
Lamb Swans	16	26
Stepps	16	26
Talbot Arms	16	25
New Inn Kilmington	16	24
Royal Oak	15	23
Gerrard Arms	16	23
Nags Head LR	15	21
Axminster Con	16	21
Cloakham Lawns	15	19
Beer Club	14	18

Lyme Regis & Dist Darts

Tight at the top

Current table Pld Pts
 Rousdon Club 9 18
 Nags Head A 9 17
 Rockpoint 9 14
 Janners 9 10
 Nags Z 8 9
 Royal Standard 7 8
 Hunters Lodge 9 7
 Talbot Arms 9 7
 Four Play 9 6
 Cobb Arms 9 4
 George 9 4
 Half an Octopus 8 0
180s: Mark Barnett x4, R.Cross, Wayne Doble and Terry Prowse all x2, Tom Bond, Chris Higgs, Nick Bown, Rob Coombe and Mark Doherty all x1.

Hockey

Beaminster win close encounter

Beaminster Ladies 2 Salisbury 3rd 0

BEAMINSTER made it five wins on the trot as they came out on top in a hard-fought game against Salisbury 3rs to leapfrog them into fourth spot in Channel Division One.

The hosts got just the start they needed returning after the Christmas break, when they took the lead after just two minutes against a side who were undefeated away from home so far this season.

Hollie Clarke broke down the right and Phoebe Stewart met her cross to fire it firmly past the keeper.

Jackie Gape almost double the ad-

vantage on six minutes but her shot following a mazy run was cleared off the line.

However, Salisbury are a very capable side, and in midfield had two players who caused the home team problems with their tricky runs and good distribution, and the home defence had to be on their mettle.

Following a good opening spell from Beaminster, Salisbury came close to equalising - first from a goalmouth melee that saw keeper Lisa Condliffe, back between the posts after a few weeks absence, showing she had not lost any of her skills when bravely getting down to

thwart a goalbound effort.

Then soon after Julia May cleared a shot off the line to safety.

Up front Beaminster were causing their opponents problems and created a number of chances before Gape added a second on 27 minutes. Her shot from a short corner was blocked by the keeper but from the resultant rebound she neatly beat her marker before firing home a strong drive into the far corner.

The second half saw Salisbury come more into the game, with both sides making it a very entertaining match to watch.

Pressure ebbed and flowed for a

while before the visitors began to pen Beaminster into their half, and only hard work all over the pitch closing down their opponents, and a superb smothering save from Condliffe midway, prevented Salisbury reducing the arrears.

This was another great team performance from Beaminster with May and Tracey Smith's experience at the centre of defence invaluable against a good Salisbury side.

BEAMINSTER: Lisa Condliffe, Julia May, Tracey Smith, Sarah Davies, Izzy Mullins, Jackie Gape, Genna Bunker, Megan Tuck, Phoebe Stewart, Hollie Clarke, Lydia Brooking.

Channel Div 1	Pld	Pts
Yeovil & Sherb 2nd	10	23
Bournemouth 3rd	10	18
B & SN 2nd	10	15
BEAMINSTER	11	15
Salisbury	10	13
Yeovil & Sherb 3rd	10	9
Salisbury 4th	10	9
Gillingham 2nd	9	9

D' Wood Div 1 (top)	Pld	Pts
Tavistock	12	33
Isca C	12	24
WEST DORSET	12	20
Bude	12	20
Sidmth & Ottery C	12	19
USHC Plymouth	12	17
Cambridge SoM	12	14

SE 2 Div (top)	Pld	Pts
Bridgwater B	10	30
WEST DORSET A	10	24
North Devon A	10	21
Chard A	10	15
Ashmoor A	9	14

Rugby

Great start as Bridport wallop Wimborne

Bridport 50 Wimborne 3rd 0

BRIDPORT got the New Year off to a great start by thumping Wimborne 3rd's who languish at the foot of the table with two wins to their name this season.

However the visitors might have been first off the mark with a penalty in a kickable position, but chose to tap and go.

The attack was snuffed out by determined Bridport tackling which set the tone for an excellent defensive display from the hosts.

Another positive feature of Bridport's game was the much improved handling and distribution from the threequarters, opening up Wimborne's defence and letting Ricky Stubbs drift through an enormous gap to score. William Everitt converted the try.

Lee Burdett added another well worked try, again converted by Everitt, who then spun a long looped pass to give Stubbs for his second try, although he failed to add the conversion to leave Bridport leading 19-0 at the break.

The second half started with an excellent break from Ewan Dommett making his debut for the senior side and playing with great confidence at No 8, and with the momentum all with Bridport, Bret Chant found himself on the end of another excellent move and was able to score out wide on the left. Donald Farmer missed the conversion.

Bridport continued their scoring with Burdett adding to his tally with a storming run from the halfway line which Farmer converted, before Dommett set up Freddie Woolner for the next score, the latter missing the conversion.

Farmer was proving to be a handful for

the opposition, and he provided the ball for Ricky Stubbs to record a hat-trick which Woolner converted.

The Blues reached the half-century when Harry Richardson spun through several tackles to score for Woolner to add the two points.

Wimborne didn't give up and enjoyed periods of pressure, but were no match for a resurgent Bridport who next week are at home to Salisburys 2nds next Saturday who will be a much tougher proposition.

Weymouth Colts 0 Bridport 50

AFTER an even start Bridport stepped up a gear after 15 minutes with some good scrums, lineouts and loose play.

Tries came from Woolner, Cullen, Baldwin, Dommett, Perkin and a very enjoyable one from prop forward Seb Phillips who broke away and the outrun backs over 40 yards to reach the line.

Bridport scored eight tries with five conversions by Woolner and Petchy.

The game finished early as Weymouth ran out of players; they simply were not fit or tough enough to withstand the onslaught of attack after attack in the second half.

Swanage & Wareham U13 28 Bridport 29

IN a hard fought match Bridport opened the scoring with a wonderful solo run from Corbin Newman with the conversion sealed by man of the match Josh Craven.

Swans hit back and took advantage of some lack lustre tackling to forge into a 21-12 half time lead after captain Eddie Gale



had also sped in for a try to keep Bridport interested.

The second half began badly for Bridport with Swans again securing a converted try; tackling again being the main reason.

Although 28-12 down, it seemed to spur a Bridport revival, and Craven again working hard, scored under the posts and then converted his try.

Henry Wyrill with help from Nathan Aplin pulled another one back after Swans fumbled on their line and then Wyrill capped a great display by picking up from a ruck and powering over in the corner from 15 metres to secure the win and his second try.

In the first of two 20-minute games, they drove over, and quickly fed the ball away from ruck and maul to their speed merchants.

There were no knock-on's; just silky handling; and all the backs went over for a try.

James Clatworthy set the scoreboard ticking by taking a pass at pace and running half of the pitch to score, before Oliver Hansford-Harvey, who also tackled like a demon, flew along the touch line to score in the corner.

Then the forwards weighed in. Captain Thomas Craven and vice-captain George

Found exchanged passes to put each over, Found twice, before wing Archie Smith, weaved through a melee to break free and score an individual try for a 6-0 victory.

In the second game, Swans rallied and scored first. However Found's captaincy held Bridport firm, and William Smith conjured up two tries out of nothing.

Swans scored twice more, but Found, relinquishing the leadership, scored three tries, followed by Hansford-Harvey to give a second victory 6-3.

Next week they meet Wimborne, and if all Bridport players tackle like Toby Gale, they may make a game of it.

Under 9s

BRIDPORT turned the tables on their visitors Swanage & Wareham who had beaten them comfortably when they last met.

New recruit, Stanley Cooper, made an immediate impact, tackling fearlessly and forcing turnover ball.

Barney Johnson, back to full health, also imposed himself with three tries. Dom Burdett showed his pace to score another and James Glanville also scored.

Swans managed three in reply to give Bridport a deserved 5-3 win.

In the second game tries came aplenty as tacklers tired.

For Bridport Charles Edwards, later named player of the match, scored four splendid tries, with Glanville, Patrick May, Burdett and Johnson all adding one apiece.

Swans responded with eight of their own to draw the game.



◆ MADE IT: More match action from Bridport Colts 50-0 win at Weymouth Colts.
Photos by MARK PERKINS

U6 football in Bridport

BRIDPORT Football Club are launching a new under 6s team.

Training sessions will be held at Colfox School on Wednesday evenings between 6pm and 7pm.

Please contact Martin Phillips (manager) on 07969 882496 for more details.

Bridport Skittles

CUP FIXTURES

CUP WINNERS CUP - R2

Monday, January 19th
Crazy Gang v Castouts (5)
Brandy Snaps v Pinbashers
Wednesday January 21st
U Know the B v Lively Lads
Thursday, January 22nd
Shipfaced v Pioneers (15)
Bangers v Alleycats (15)
Yo Yo's (5) v Unknowns
Wanderers v Mean Mac (10)

Friday, January 23rd
Originals v Bulldogs

KNOCKOUT CUP - R3

Monday, January 19th
Alleycats v Aussies Lot
Tuesday, January 20th
Bulldogs v Shipfaced
Rejects v Yo Yo's
Wednesday, January 21st
Nelson Nob v Brandy Snaps
Castouts v Groundhogs
Thursday, January 22nd
Rough Eight v Whisky Chas
Lively Lads v Broadak
Friday, January 23rd
Pioneers v Crazy Gang

LOSERS CUP A & B - R2

Tuesday, January 20th
Rockets v The Dingles
Mean Machine v Dingbats
Thursday, January 22nd
7' Clock v Slingers
Friday, January 23rd
Miss the Ball v LHS

Division A	Pld	Pts
Rejects	9	14
Shipfaced	9	14
Wanderers	8	14
Masters	10	12
Rockets	10	12
Denhay	10	11
Outsiders	9	10
Rough Eight	10	8
Lively Lads	10	6
Slingers	10	6
The Dingles	9	4
Broadak	10	3

Division B	Pld	Pts
U Know the Blokes	10	17
Dingbats	10	16
Originals	8	14
Nelson Nobblers	7	12
NBC	10	10
LHS	9	8
Bangers	8	7
7' Clock	10	6
Crazy Gang	10	6
Miss the Ball	10	6
Gerryatrics	8	4
Mean Machine	10	4

Division C	Pld	Pts
Countrymen	10	18
Castouts	10	16
Bulldogs	10	14
Whey Chasers	9	13
Pioneers	10	12
Aussies Lot	10	8
Pinseekers	10	8
Strawpedees	10	8
Alcoholics	9	6
Survivors	10	6
Unknowns	10	6
AFAR	10	3

Division D	Pld	Pts
Yo Yo's	10	16
Groundhogs	8	14
Alleycats	10	12
Brandy Snaps	9	10
Hidden Talent	8	10
Offcuts	9	9
Featherbeds	9	8
Let 'em Roll	8	8
Stinger	9	8
Bad Girls	10	7
Pinbashers	10	4
Tiger Lilies	10	4

Highest individual League score;	EA Combes (Outsiders) and F Parsons (Originals) both 92.
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Bees news

Four-goal Moores has a field day

Bridport Reserves 0 Hamworthy Rec 4

STRIKER Jamie Moores scored all four goals as Hamworthy Rec maintained their challenge for the Dorset Premier League title.

It had looked like the dull and listless first half would end goalless when a minute before the break Moores latched on to a superb reverse pass from Max Willcox to blast his shot just inside Jamie Fry's right hand post.

The deadlock broken, he found the net three more times in the second half to earn his side an easy victory.

The game was devoid of any real goalmouth action until the 40th minute when the Bridport defence was forced to work hard to clear the ball, but Moores finally broke the duck four minutes later.

It looked like Bridport might get back in the game two minutes after the break when Chris Herbst crossed from the left and Kane Andrews was forced to head behind for a corner.

However Rec increased their lead on 51 min-

utes. A cross from the right from Luke Dawes, who Bridport claim was two yards offside, was met by an unmarked Moores at the far post who headed home from close range.

Herbst was booked for disputing the goal and immediately substituted by Roger Cummings.

Hamworthy were now in command and were unlucky when first Dominic Allen's shot was deflected over the bar by Alan Hill, before Dan Peart was on hand to clear Ian Barlett's header from a corner off the line.

The Bees thought they had pulled a goal back on 73 minutes when Jack Scovell followed up to score after Ben Clarke had appeared to have been brought down in the penalty area. Not only was Scovell's goal ruled out, but Hamworthy awarded a free kick.

Hamworthy made sure of the points four minutes later when a raid down the left saw Allen sweep on the cross for Moores, once again unmarked on the right, to control the ball before firing his shot beyond Fry into the corner of the

net.

Cummings had a chance almost immediately to pull a goal back when Clarke pulled the ball back from the byeline, but the sub instead of hitting it first time tried to set the shot up and fired it high over the crossbar.

The game began to get scrappy after this with tempers beginning to fray, eventually resulting in a red card for Dawes ten minutes from time.

Peart, frustrated at the match situation and annoyed at overrunning the ball following a run, barged into the Rec defender.

The result of the collision was that Peart after going to ground suddenly grabbed his face as if it had been struck.

Red card

Surrounded by protesting players from both sides, referee Paul Axon who had appeared over officious and inconsistent all afternoon, showed Dawes a red card, apparently for throwing mud at Peart in protest at his decision

to award in Bridport's favour.

The resulting free-kick from Ashley Walkey saw Rec keeper Andy Knight tested for the first time in the game, leaping to his left to turn the curling 25-yard shot away from the far post.

The travelling fans thought justice had been done a minute from time when Peart underhit his back pass, allowing Moore to capitalise and fire under Fry to complete the scoring.

Bees manager Robin Townsend, who changed the formation to a diamond style, had been pleased by his side's first half performance, but agreed that in the end Hamworthy were too good for them,

Townsend said: "I thought after the first ten minutes we started to grow into the game, and were slightly the better side, but their goal just on half-time was disappointing.

"We thought the second one just after the break however was well offside; the assistant was talking to our subs and not watching the game!"

Wessex Point-to-Point

Good starts for Barber and Biddick

HENLEY trainer Jack Barber and three-time National Champion jockey Will Biddick started the New Year in great fashion with a double at the first point-to-point meeting of the season at Larkhill last week where all the races were well contested with 112 of the 144 entries going to post.

They teamed up with a winning double starting with the first race of the day, the Larkhill Racing Club Members Conditions (Div 1) with 6/4fav Sublette Sovereign winning by three lengths.

The eight-year old raced alongside runner-up Kazuri Kate (Claire Hart) throughout, before asserting over the final three fences.

"He was my first winner as a trainer, last as a jockey and this is his third win here," smiled a clearly delighted Barber.

They followed this success with Benedictus (7/2) in the Mens Open, giving his new owners immediate success when benefiting from a vintage holdup ride to win by 6 lengths from Perfectly Willing (Mark Wall) and 6/4fav Quinz (Joe Hill) approaching the last.

"I sold him to Graham Cotton, Ray Barrow, Robert Trevarthen, Michael Twyford, Cyril Moate and John Irish, partly at my owners' day and partly before," revealed Jack. "It's too early to make plans – we'll just take it one race at a time."

The duo's hopes of a treble were dashed when Ask The Weatherman's renewed effort in the first Restricted was denied by Native Pride and jockey Max Kendrick, who had rerouted from Plumpton.

Herbert triumphs on top in opening match

LYME Regis Sea Angling Club had its first Saturday league shore match of the New Year on Saturday.

Fishing took place from 6pm until 11pm; the anglers goal being the most number of different species, including mini species.

Despite the weather forecast the new shore secretary, Simon Lippett had a good turnout of anglers, with 16 members and one guest fishing.

Five beard rockling, shore rockling, pout, and whiting were all caught in numbers by most of the anglers, along with dogfish, bullhuss and flounder.

There were even a couple of bass caught which were unfortunately undersized and so were put straight back.

Despite the forecast, the wind dropped out and the sea had calmed right down just before the start of the match.

Most anglers fished around the Harbour walls, but a few fished from Monmouth beach, the main beach, and also from the new wall at the Eastern end of Lyme.

The winner with five species was Darren Herbert, with Josh Chestney (four) second and Ben Male also with four species in third.

The next fish will be the first of the Wednesday League matches on January 21st at Seaton where fishing for "the best single specimen" will take place from 6.30pm until 10.30pm.

New members are more than welcome, and if you would like to join up, please visit *The Tackle Box* and ask for an application form.

Send your sports news, reports, scores and photos to; howard@pemedia.co.uk

Dorset Football League

Second half brace keeps Islanders in title mix

Dorset Premier League

WAREHAM 0 PORTLAND UNITED 2

THE Islanders returned from a tricky fixture in the Purbeck's with all three points in a close match settled by two goals in minutes early in the second half.

Lewis Clarke put them ahead on 49 minutes converting Ed Bastick's cross, before Carl Mutch doubled their lead immediately when he headed home from a corner. The win sees Portland in second place, just two points behind leaders Merley Cobham Sports with a game in hand. However, Hamworthy Recreation are well positioned in third.

They beat Bridport Reserves 4-0 and are seven points behind Merley but with three games in hand.

Dorset Football League Senior League

WITH leaders CHICKERELL UNITED

going down 5-3 at Gillingham Town Reserves, THE BALI HOUSE moved back to top spot with a 3-1 victory over visitors Holt United with goals from Ricky Lane (2) and Grant Chance.

Jamie Samways scored the only goal of the game for Piddlethrethide Spartans at PORTLAND UNITED RESERVES to move up into the top four, but DORCHESTER SPORTS were beaten 3-1 at Blandford United Reserves.

Dorset One

KIM Tinker's goal for Bere Regis was not enough to prevent visitors Stourpaine winning 2-1 to maintain top spot.

Just behind are KANGAROOS who beat Shaftesbury Town Reserves 3-0 with goals from Richard Beasley, Ashley White and Taylor Quinton.

Division Two

JACK Brow score both goals for CHICKERELL UNITED RESERVES in their 2-2 draw with Piddlehinton United.

Division Three

LOWLY Sturminster Newton United Reserves caused the upset of the day by beating leaders Strickland United 2-1, which allowed Wool & Winfrith to close the gap to one point following their 5-2 victory over visitors PUDDLETOWN.

PORTLAND TOWN RESERVES moved up into fourth place after their 4-2 success at Handley Sports with goals from Alex Counter, Robert Darch, Matthew Greening and Antony Morris.

Division Four

BOTTOM side PORTLAND TOWN B were beaten 6-1 at home by league leaders Marnhull.

over visitors Owermoigne with a brace from Robert Maxsted whilst Chris Nelson netted for the visitors.

Goals from Matthew Dear and Ben Murphy were not enough to save UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB OF POUNDBURY from defeat against visitors South Cheriton United Reserves.

The bottom two clubs KANGAROOS

RESERVES and Corfe Mullen United Reserves fought out a 2-2 draw with William Turland getting both for the Kangaroos, and Michael Fleetham and Seb Moore replying for Corfe Mullen.

Division Five

BOTTOM side PORTLAND TOWN B were beaten 6-1 at home by league leaders Marnhull.

Good Mates

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INSIDE: Local sport round-up

Desperate times for Dorchester Town



◆ RETURNING: Ben Watson

Chesham United 3 Dorchester Town 2

Calor Premier – att; 301

IT appears that when you are down you are kicked again, and that is what Dorchester manager Graham Kemp and his assistant Stuart Heath must have thought after Saturday's defeat.

After encouraging displays against the top two teams over the Christmas period it seemed as if at last the Magpies were about to turn the corner, particularly following the expected return of Ben Watson and Lewis Morgan to bolster their ranks.

With a full squad to pick from following training on Thursday night, the pair looked forward to the match against the Generals two days later.

They had already had the disappointment of carrying on the good work when their midweek match at Frome Town was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch, and then disaster struck as player after player was struck off the list due to unavailability.

Biggest blow was to learn just two hours before kick-off that former Magpie favourite Watson's return had been put on hold as the paperwork had not been completed on time.

By then they had already lost Dave Allen and Mason Walsh due to injury and Tony Rolls through a family bereavement, before Nick Crittenton also had to withdraw having injured his back on the morning of the match.

As a result club captain Nathan Walker led the attack with Matt Oldring took his place in the centre of defence, whilst substitute keeper Alan Walker-Harris also was available to play outfield, so short were they of players.

Keeper Shane Murphy prevented the hosts taking an early lead by thwarting Mark Bell with an outstretched foot, before the Magpies snatched the lead on six minutes.

Sam Lanahan laid Chris Dillon's long throw into the Chesham penalty area back into the path of Walker who fired into the corner of the net.

Murphy then pushed Ryan Murphy's near post effort behind for a corner, before the Generals equalised midway through the half when Oakley Hanger conceded a free kick wide on the left. Bell's kick found Dave Pearce unmarked at the far post

by Stuart Broom

Stuart@pemedia.co.uk

to squeeze his header home.

Although Chesham had the better of the rest of the first half they rarely worried Murphy, whilst at the other end, the returning Dan Smith forced keeper Shane Gore down to his left to save.

Murphy then once again denied Bell by tipping his dipping shot over the top as the sides went in level at the break.

Walker almost put the Magpies ahead early in the second half, but he stabbed Smith's cross just wide of the post.

Although Murphy thwarted Luke Allen in a one-on-one, Chesham took the lead just after the hour



◆ RETURNING: Lewis Morgan

when Bell helped the ball on to Ryan Blake who beat Murphy with a low 18-yard shot.

Dorchester responded, and makeshift striker Walker went close on three occasions; his first a header from a Jason Brookes cross, tipped over the top by Gore.

However it was Chesham that scored again when on 81 minutes Blake battled along the byeline before finding skipper Simon Thomas who had an easy conversion.

Dorchester were not to be denied as they battled to claim something from the game and Walker gave them hope three minutes later when his looping header from Lanahan's right wing corner dropped beyond Gore.

Chesham desperate to hang on for the points had Nick Beasent sent off a minute from normal time for time wasting having been booked earlier, but the Generals hung on against the battling Magpies.

It was expected that Watson, Walsh who has extended his loan from AFC Bournemouth for another month, and Rolls would be available for the Magpies trip to Chippenham Town last night as they look to get back up the table.

Current table	Pld	GD	Pts
WEYMOUTH.....	22	24	54
Poole Town	21	25	50
Corby Town	25	18	50
Redditch Utd.....	26	25	48
Hungerford Town.....	27	14	46
Cirencester Town	27	20	45
Truro City	26	11	45
Hitchin Town	28	9	45
Chesham Utd	27	17	43
St Neots Town.....	26	7	43
Dunstable Town	28	6	41
Slough Town	25	-2	35
Cambridge City	27	-1	31
Bideford	26	-14	31
Chippenham Town	25	-4	30
Paulton Rovers	27	-5	29
Biggleswade Town	26	-10	29
Histon	27	-17	28
Frome Town	26	-25	23
Arlesley Town	27	-29	21
DORCHESTER TOWN	25	-19	19
Banbury Utd.....	26	-30	19
Burnham (-3)	26	-20	17

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